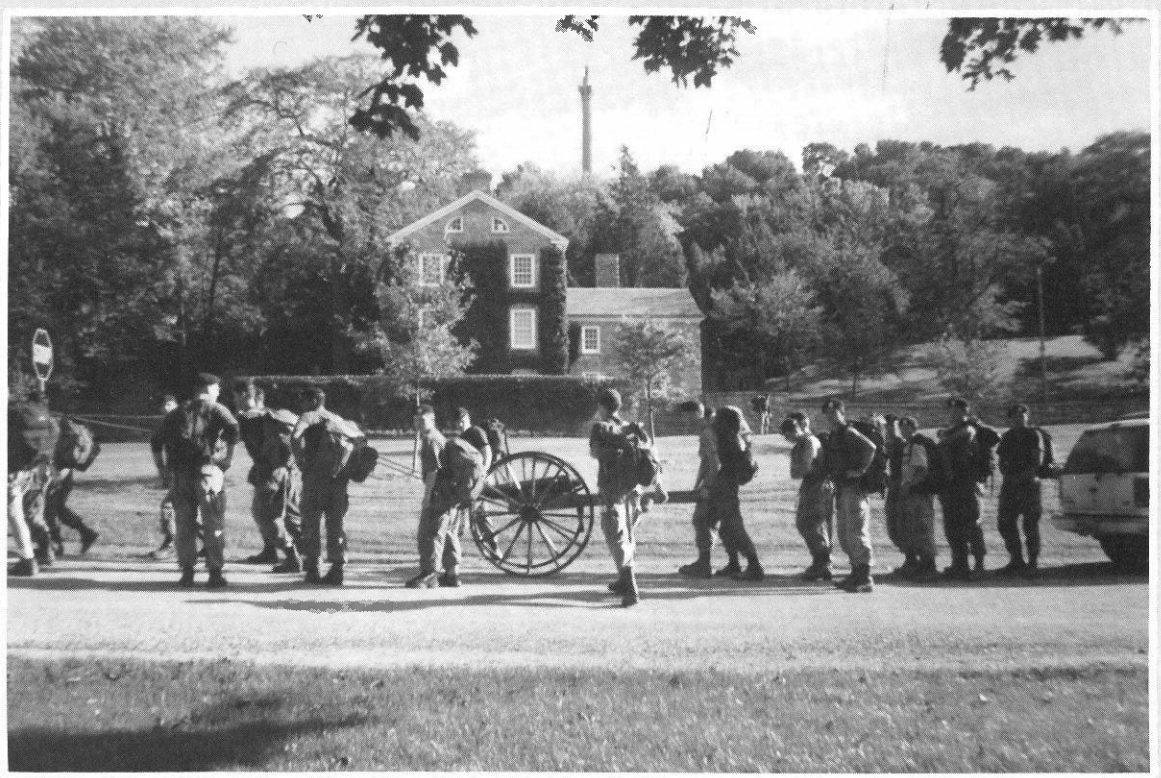
LOYALIST

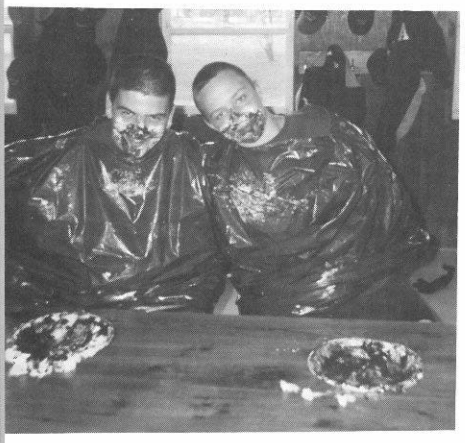
1997

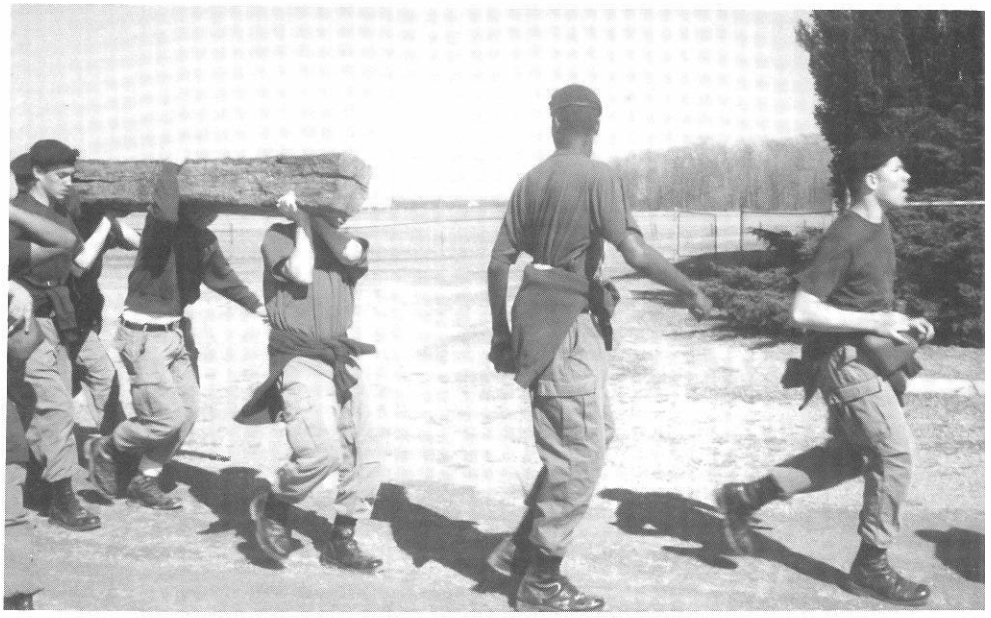


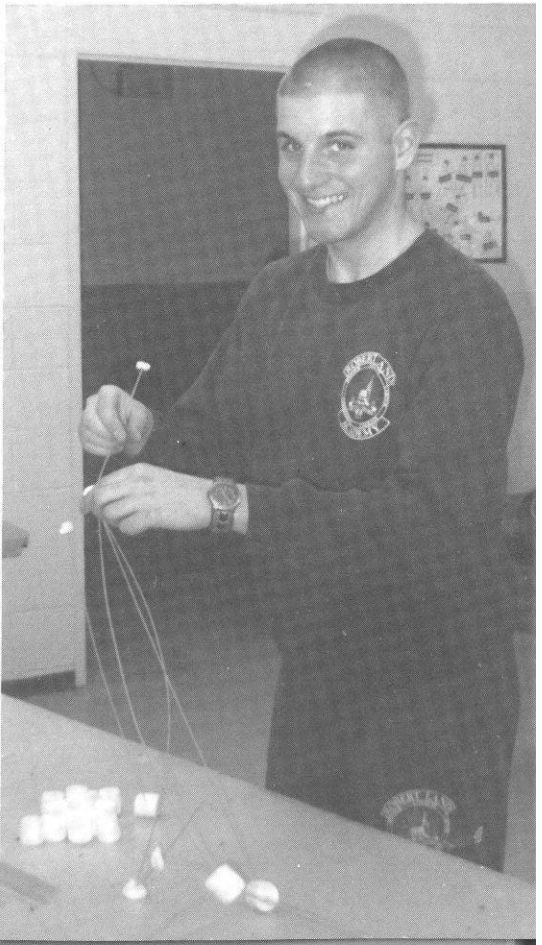
ROBERT LAND ACADEMY

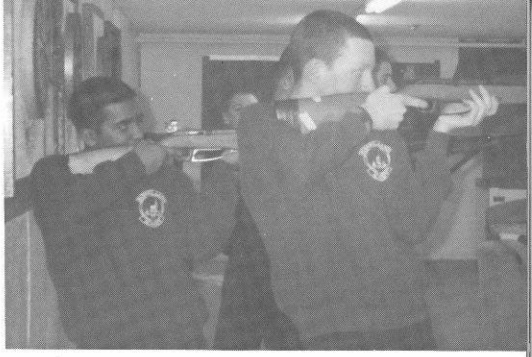
R.R. #3, Wellandport
L0R 2J0 (905) 386-6203

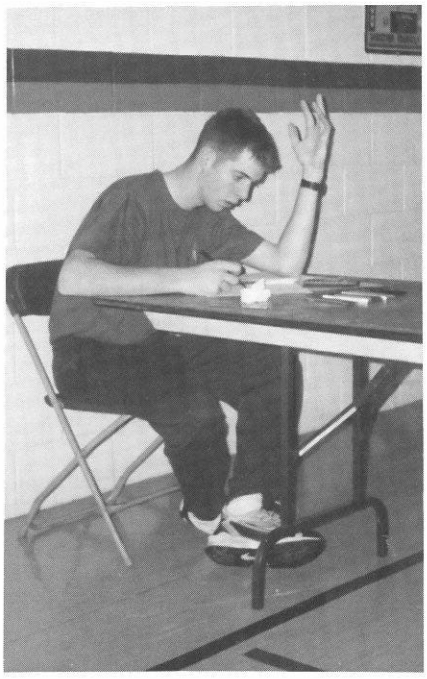
Headmaster
MAJOR SCOTT BOWMAN



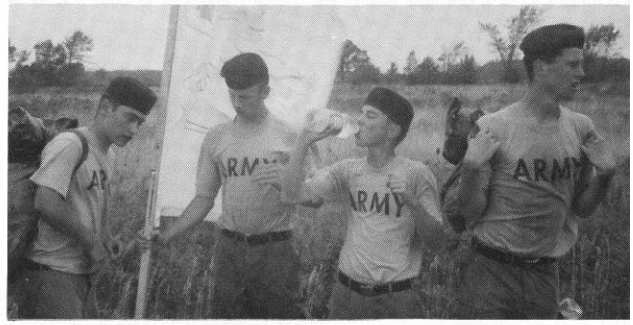


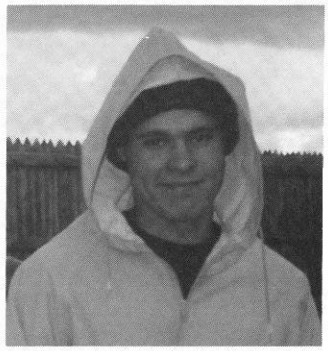


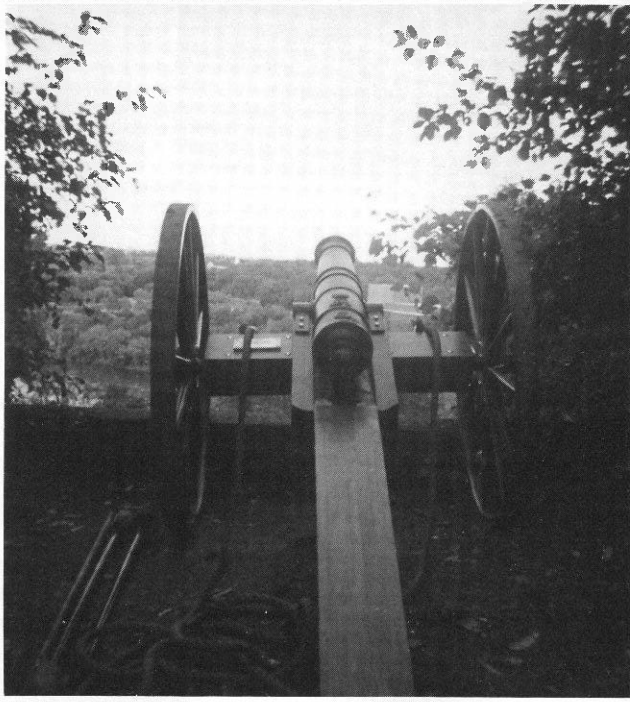




THE FALL EXERCISE





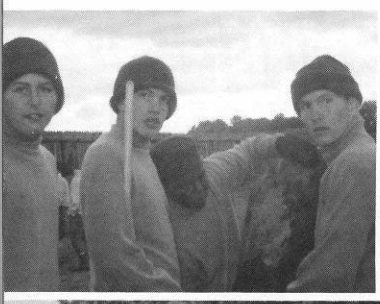


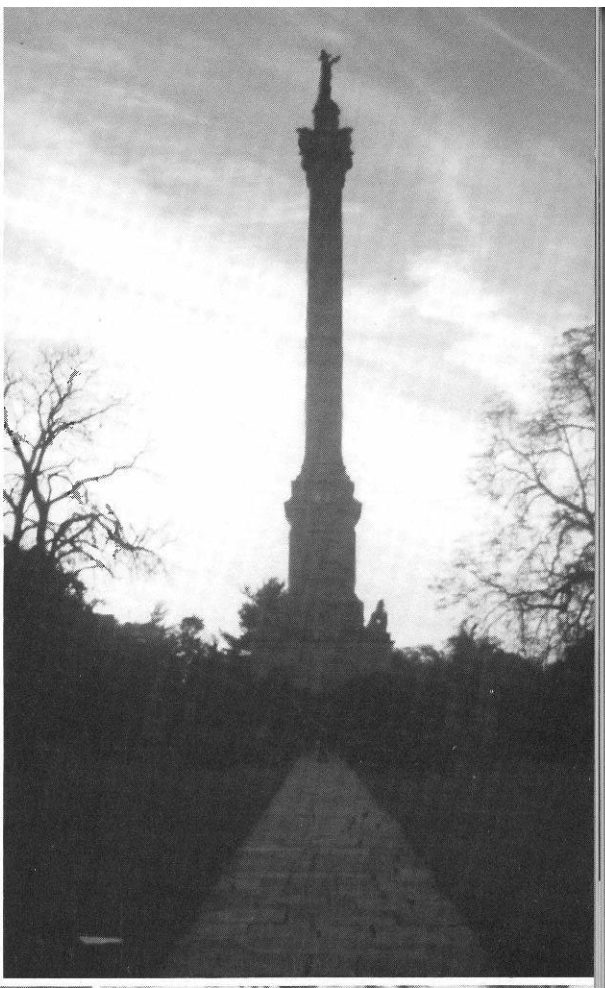
Fall Ex - Cold and Wet

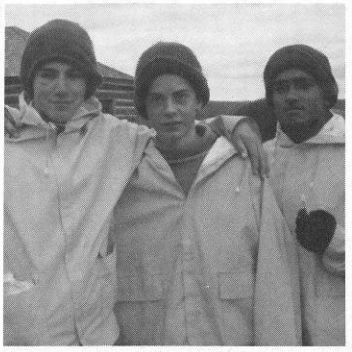
"I'm so pumped up for this!" Those were my words Wednesday morning when preparing to go on a 90 km trek with my school. This energy stopped 37 km later when I found myself wandering confused and afraid in the never-ending rain and forest. The roads seemed as endless at the short-hills, but I was looking on the positive side the whole way. I had a goal, and nothing was going to stand in my way. The day was finally over . . . night fell. The incredible cold kept me awake all night. I guess the rain hitting heavily on the tarp about half a centimeter from my face was a contibuting factor as well.

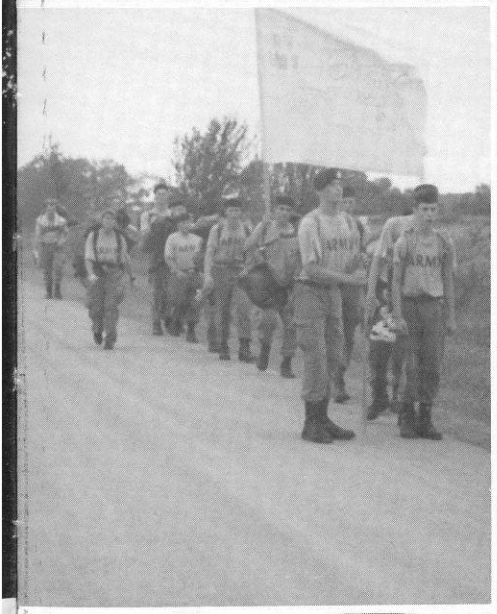
The next morning was hectic. I was too cold to roll up the soaking wet tarps and my own drenched blankets. Eventually, we were off once again. Being the second day now I was regaining my motivation. Captain Erola lead Erie trucking down the road and into first place with his inspiring and motivational techniques. We reached Fort George, set up the tarps, and enjoyed our victory. Thank God for the sleeping bags! That night, Mr. Roe (I'm guessing he left his Dexedrine at home) started a Erie Section rumble. That was awesome! It was a good night. The next morning we were up with the birds and off down the road. That day we decided to bring a 1300 POUND CANON WITH US, which wouldn't be so bad if our destination wasn't the top of Queenston Heights! The firing of the Canon on the Heights rose our spirits once again. The Badging Parade at Brock Monument was the perfect ending for our exercise. Actually, the excellent meal back at the Academy was the perfect ending for me!

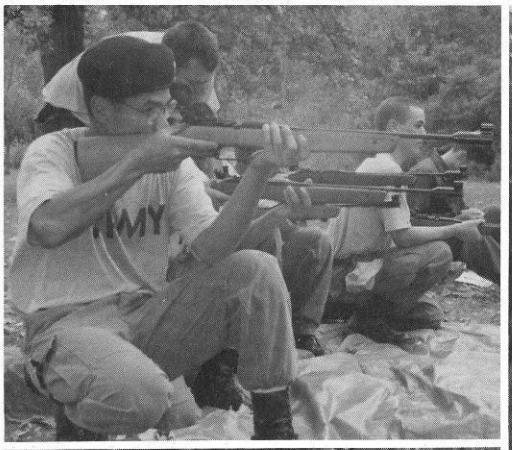
Cadet M. Harbord

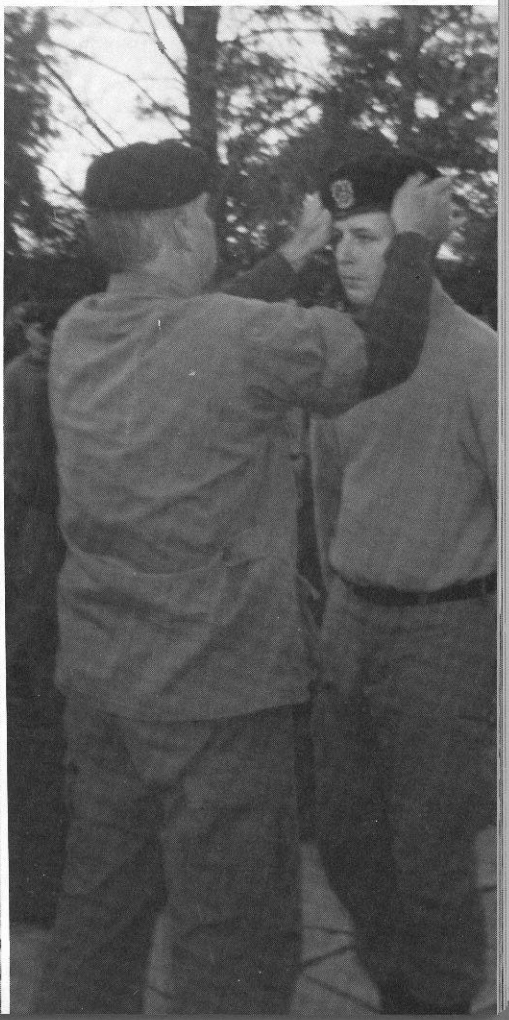


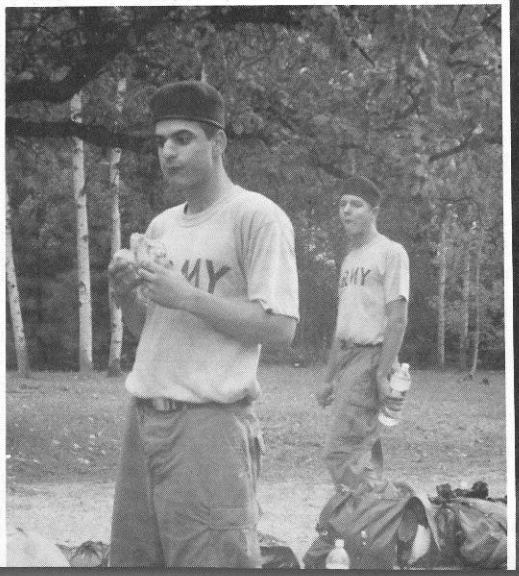




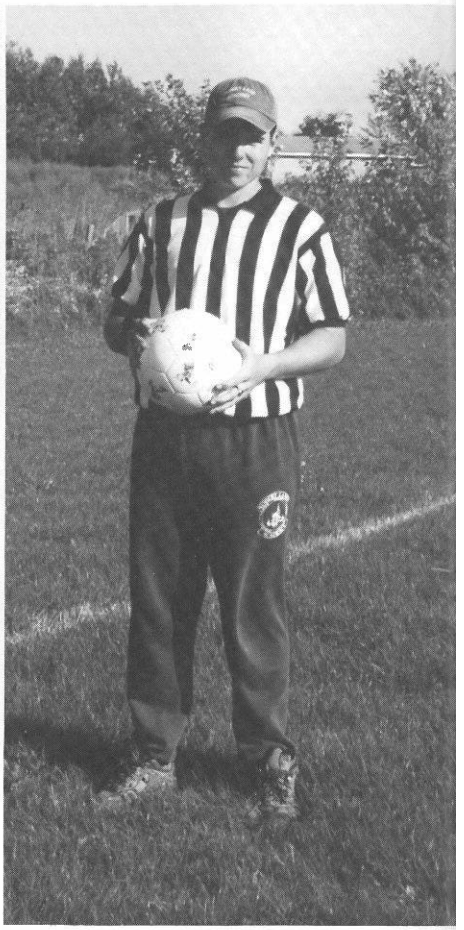




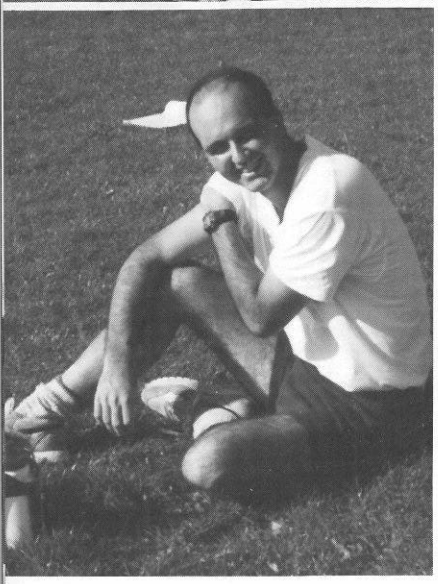


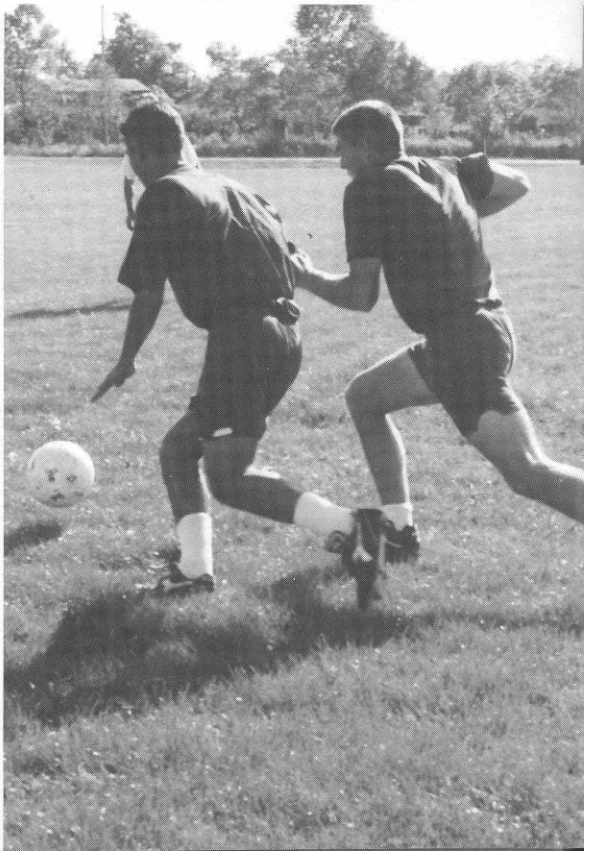


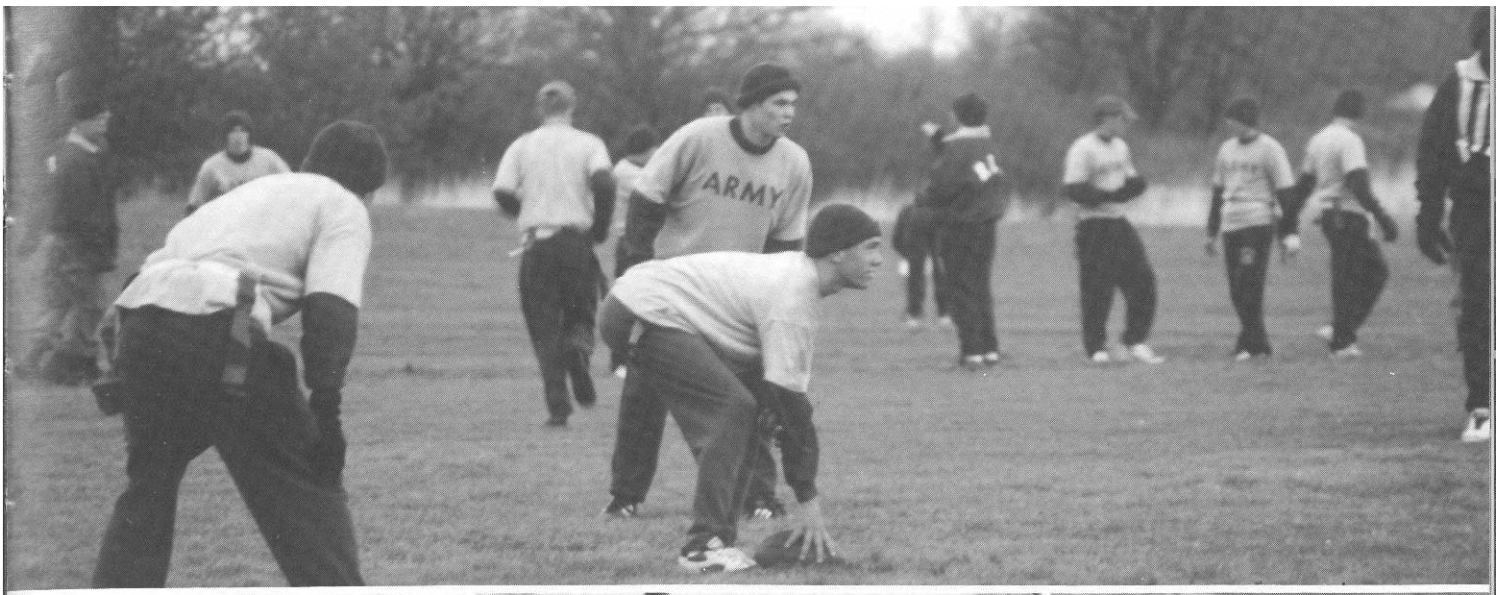
STAFF VS. STUDENTS

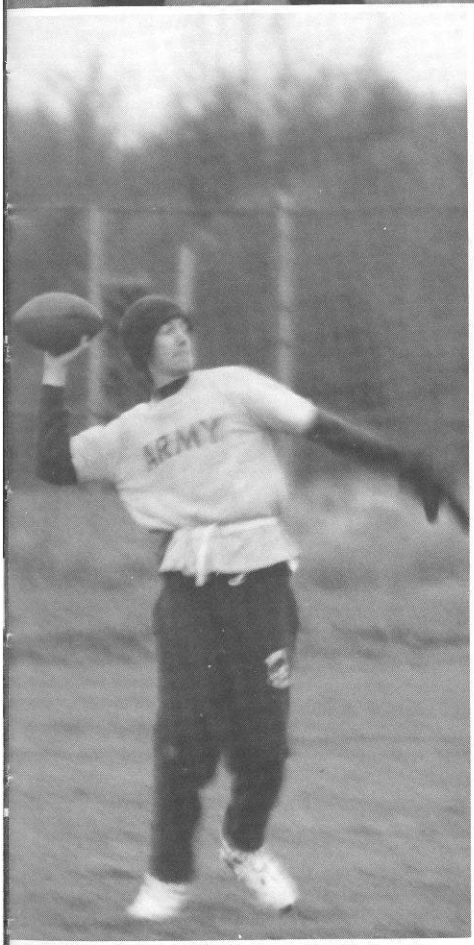


SOCCER

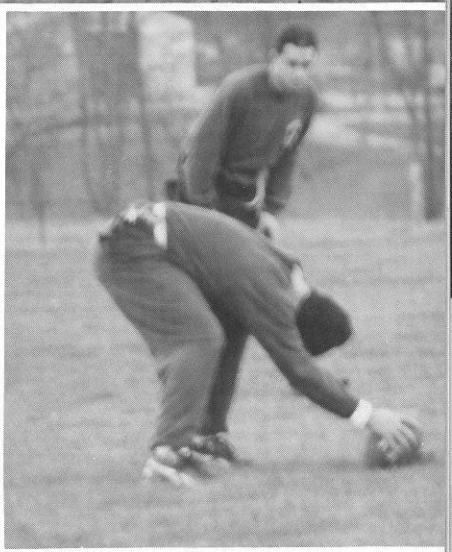


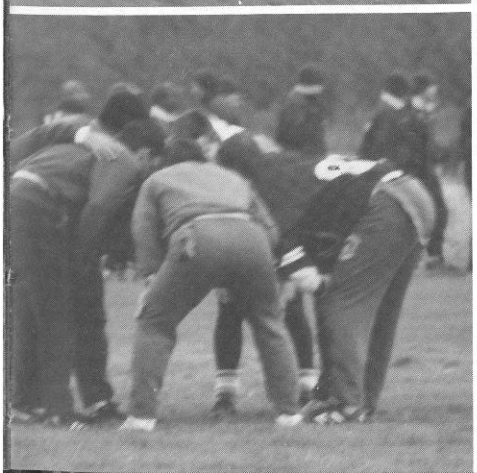


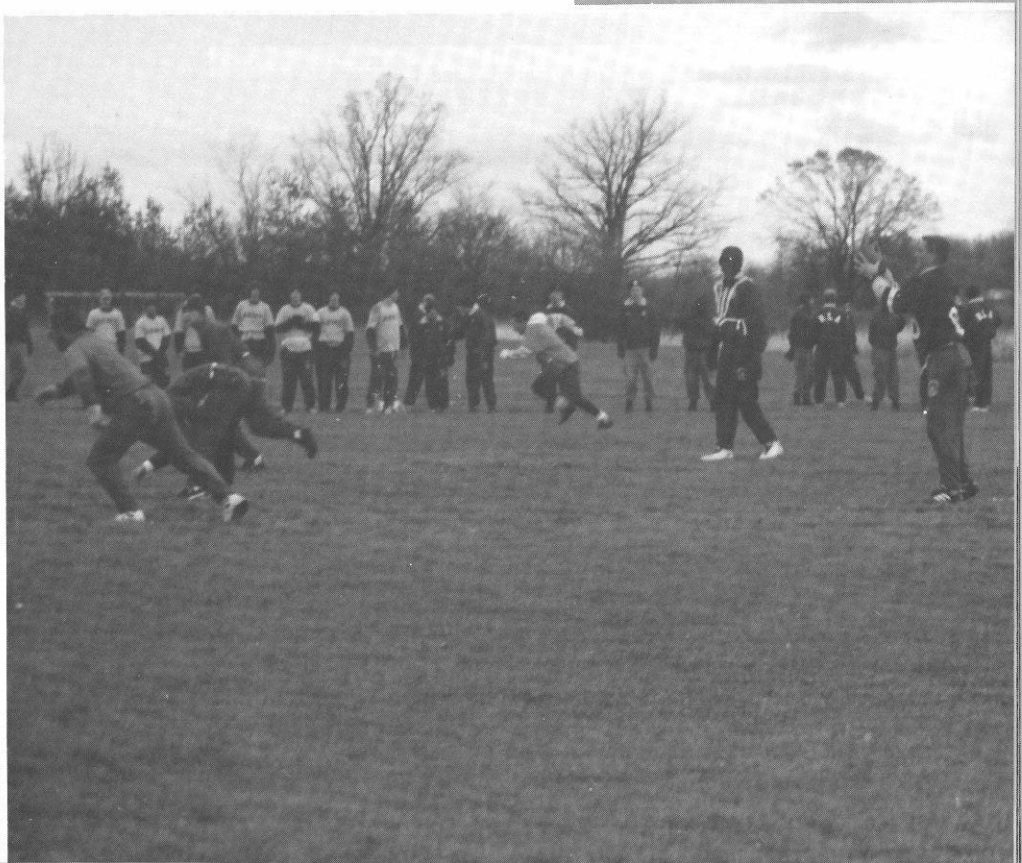




FOOTBALL







REMEMBRANCE DAY

Remember

I remember that day
The day when he left
When I saw him to his ride
The day he left me there at the station
I remember

I remember waving to him through the glass windows
Until he faded in the distance
Turning away from the moving train
I thought I'd never see him again
I remember

I remember the days, the weeks, the months that passed
My uneasiness never seemed to leave my mind
Look back at all the fun times we used to have
It never helped; just made me cry
I remember

I remember that sometimes to make the day go faster
I would go out at night and release my anger
Sometimes it was wrong, but I didn't care
Only about seeing him once more
I remember

I remember as I sat, slouched in my chair
I would listen to the news on the radio
And after hearing about all the lives lost
I couldn't help but wonder if one of those lives were his
I remember

I remember the day when the war was over
The day when the troops came home
Standing there at the station, I was all alone
I looked around at all the people reunited
Then I realized who wouldn't be . . .
My son and I
I remember

Remember by **Cadet Ryan Hughes**, received first prize in the Dunnville Legion Remember Day Poetry Contest.

CHRISTMAS

Christmas Dance

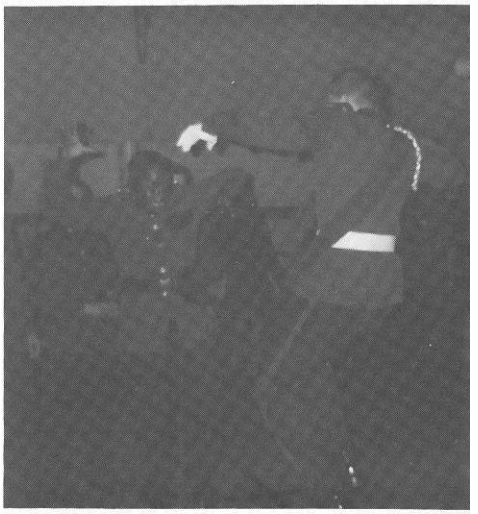
By Friday afternoon preparations for the dance were well under way. Everyone was making things perfect before the arrival of the girls later that evening.

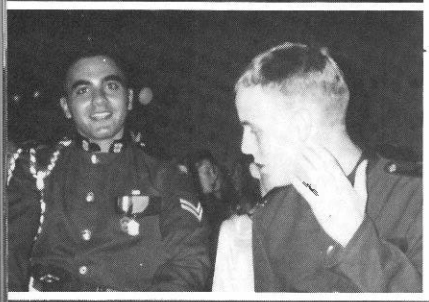
When the bus arrived everyone was excited, but also a bit nervous. The bus doors opened and we could hear the screams of the girls as Warrant Officer Henderson made his way onto the bus. When he came back out he had a big smile on his face and said ''WOW''! The girls were nervous, but flattered by the rose that was given to each one of them by the cadets.

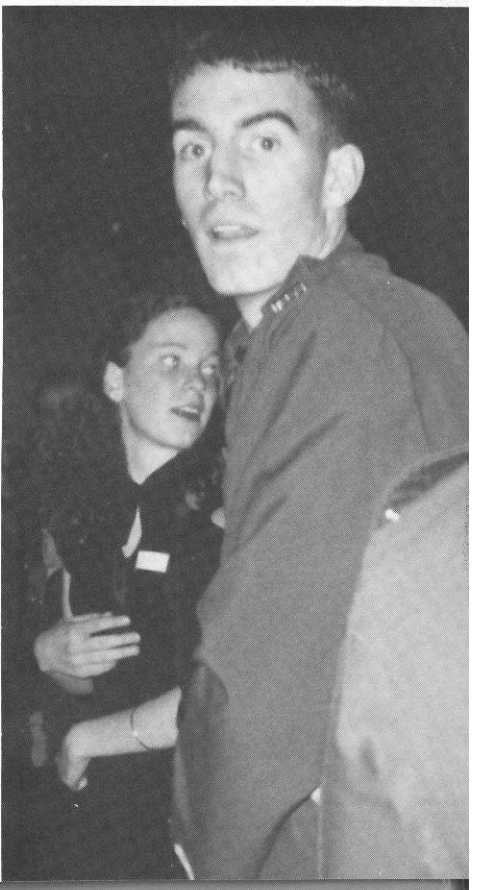
It didn't take any time for everyone to start talking and pretending like they had met before. When the dance started all the boys and girls were on opposite sides of the gym. Soon enough though the red tunics were spread amongst the girls. I personally don't like to dance, but by the end of the evening just about everyone, including myself, got up to dance. When the lights came on people were trading addresses and taking last minute pictures.

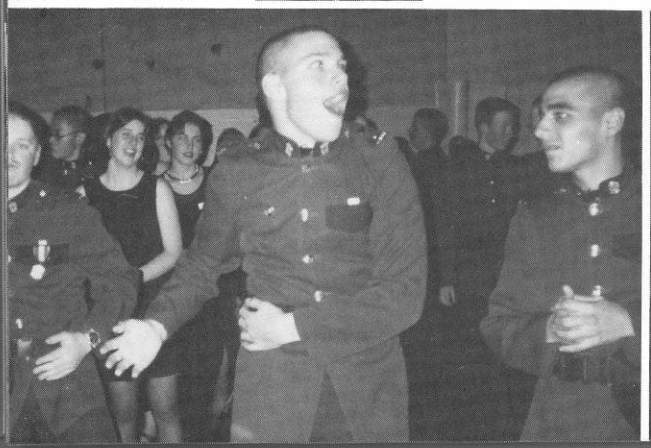
I think everyone had a good time. Many of the cadets were talking about seeing some of the girls again!

Cadet Feeney

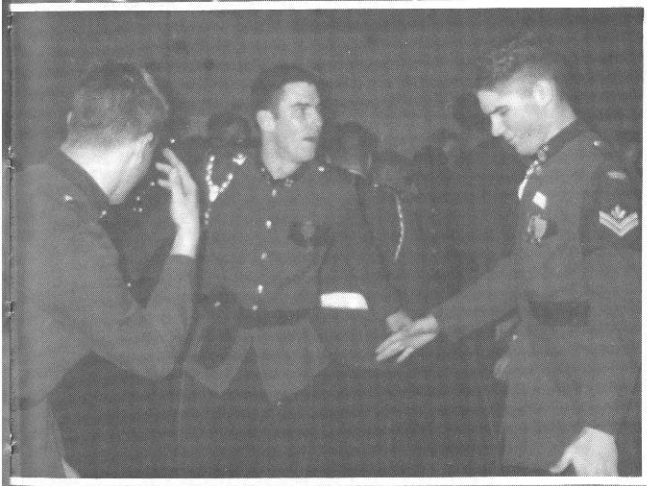


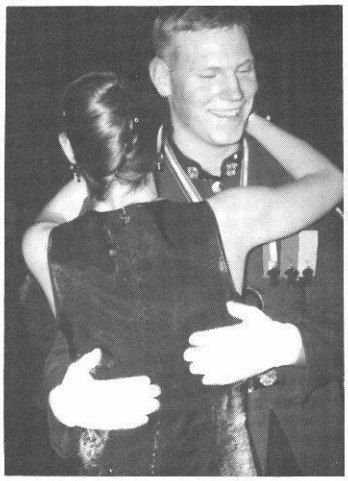


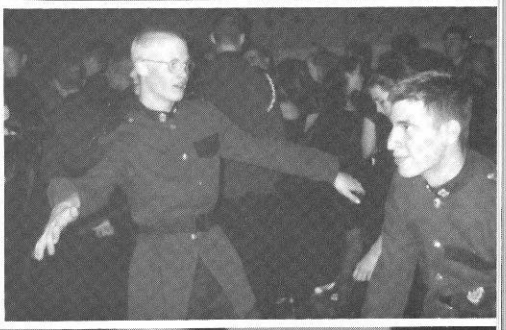


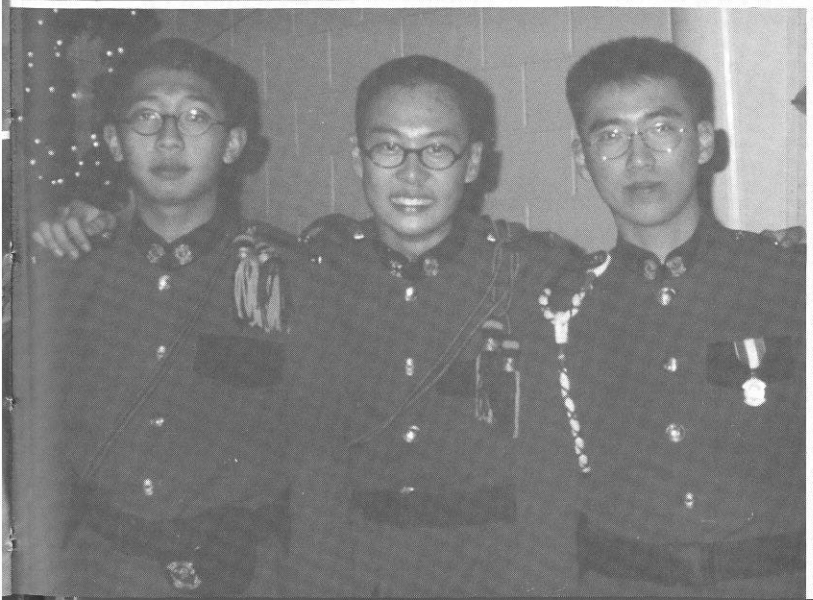


DANCE





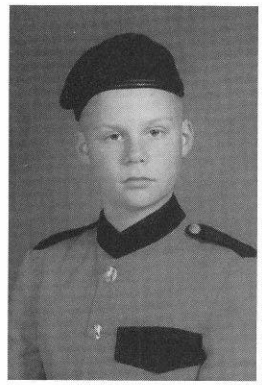
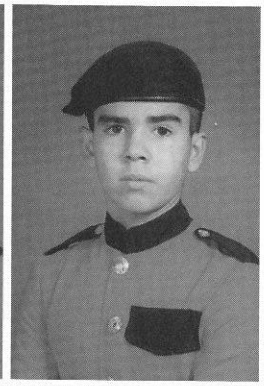
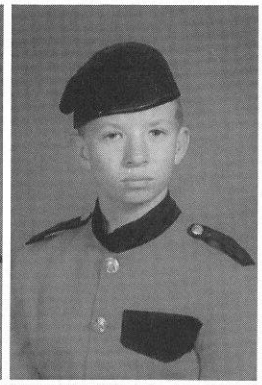
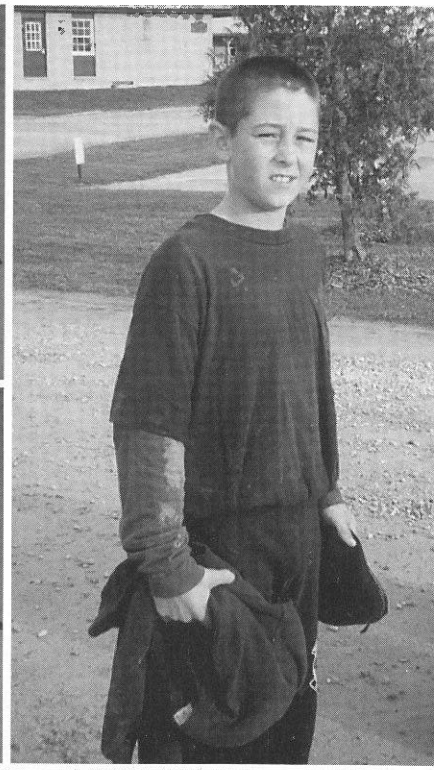




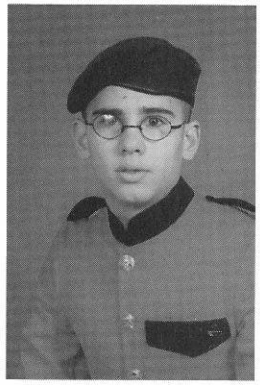
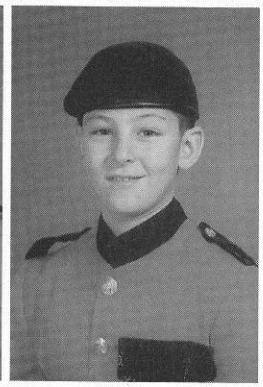
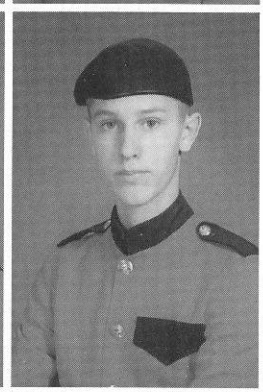
STUDENTS

GRADE 7/8

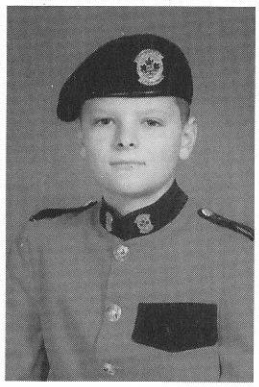
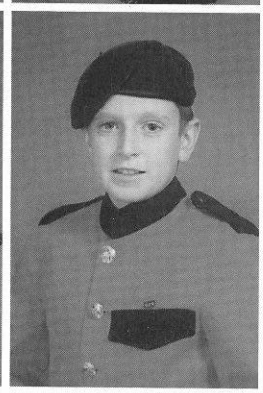
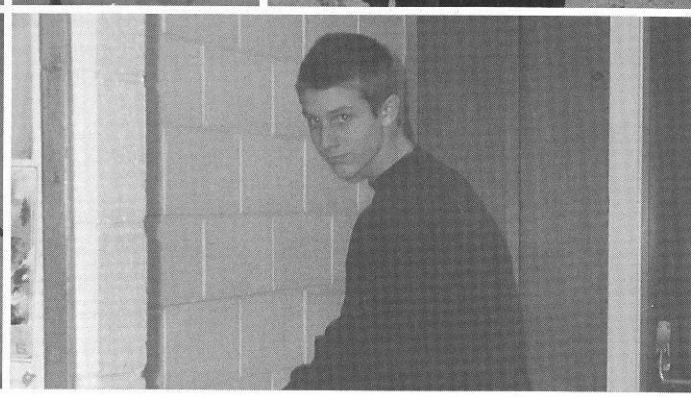
M. Dalinda
K. Demedeiros
M. Dunkley

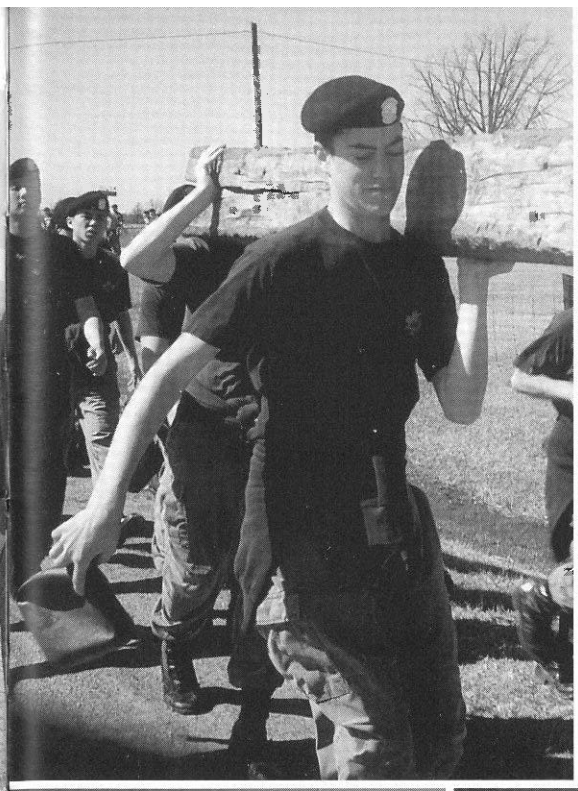





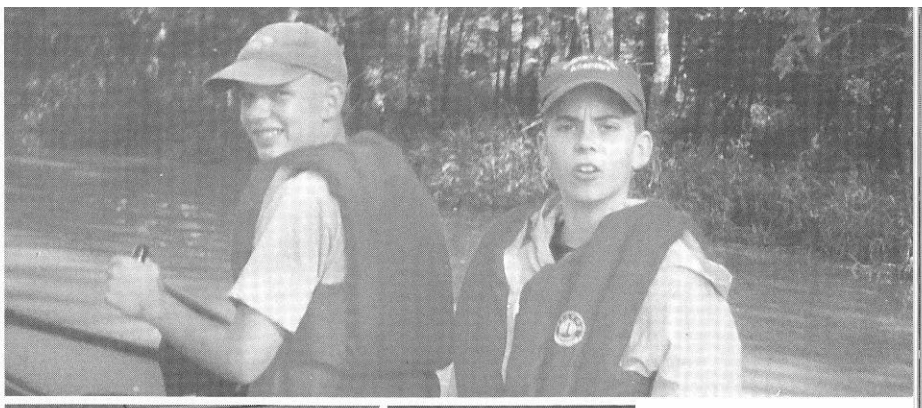
A. Fairclough
M. Kelly
E. Kezes

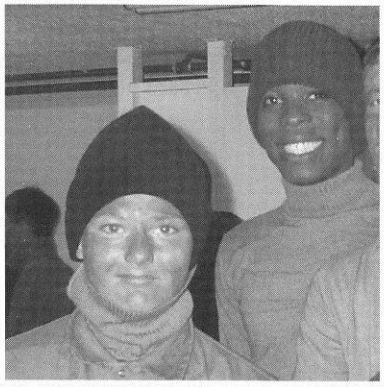




C. Mason
M. McDonald

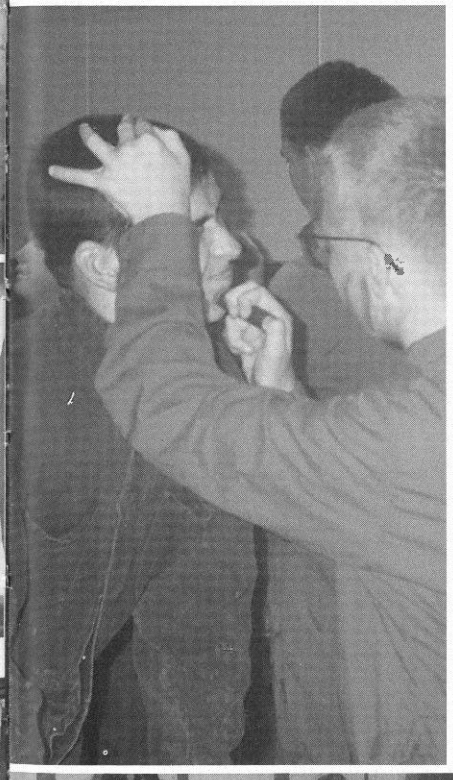


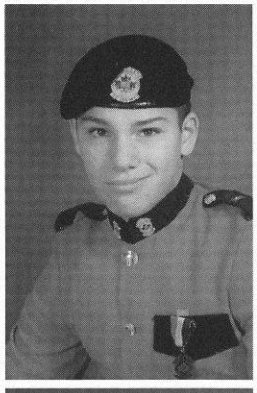


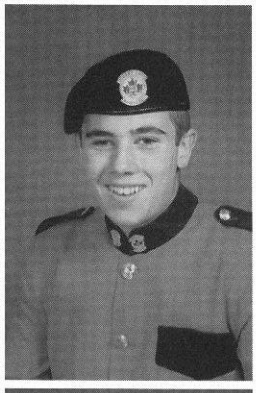


GRADE 9

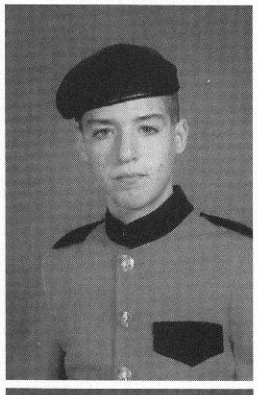
A. Abdel-Meseeh

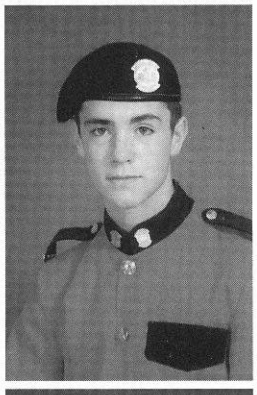




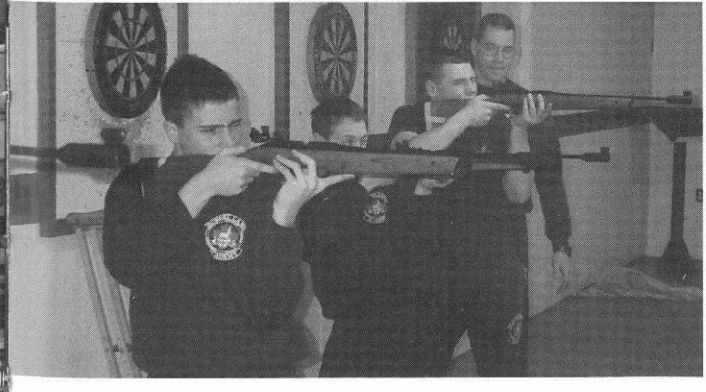


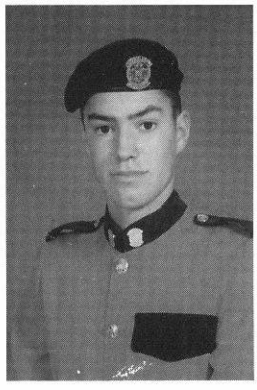
G. Battaglin
B. Denoble
H. Gamblin





M. Harbord
J. Holgate
C. Jenne





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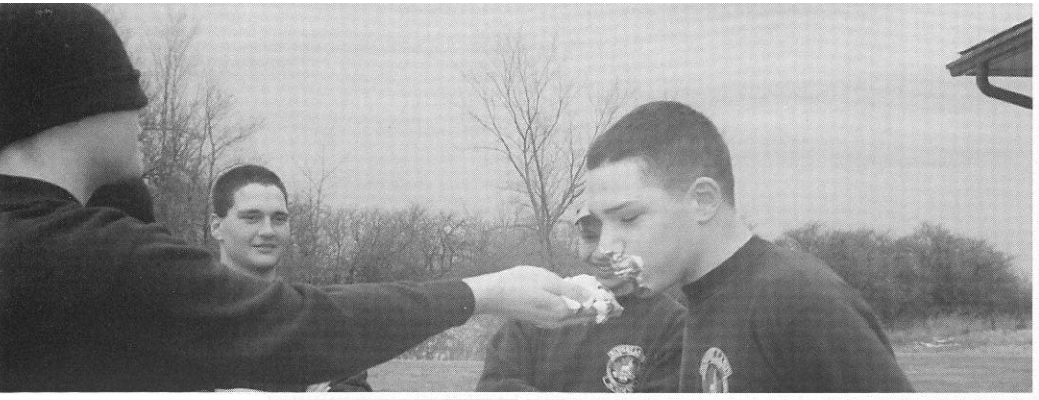

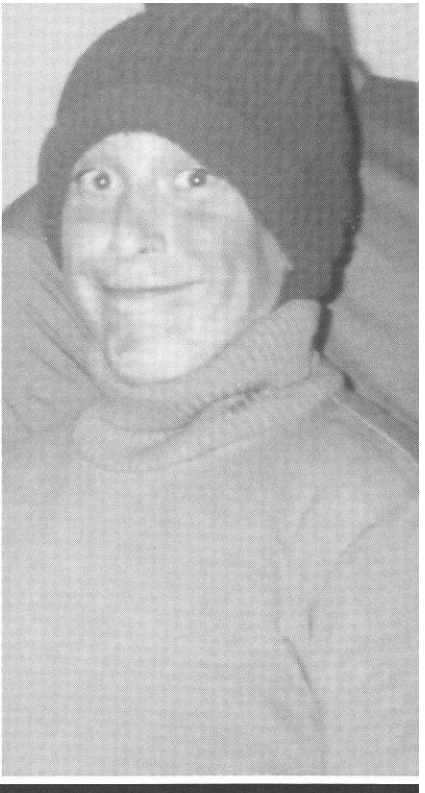

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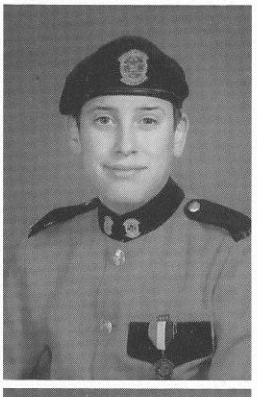
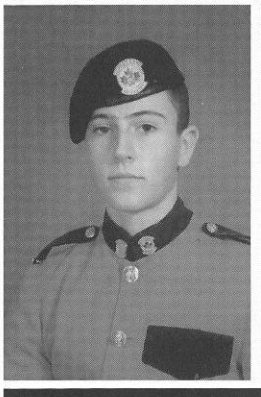
B. Marra





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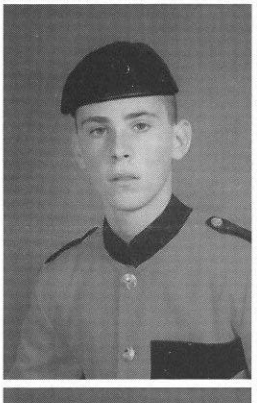

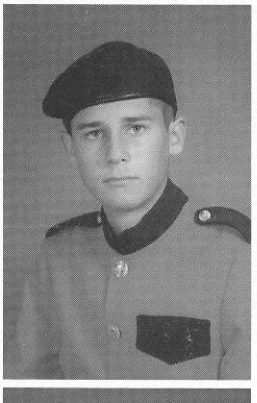

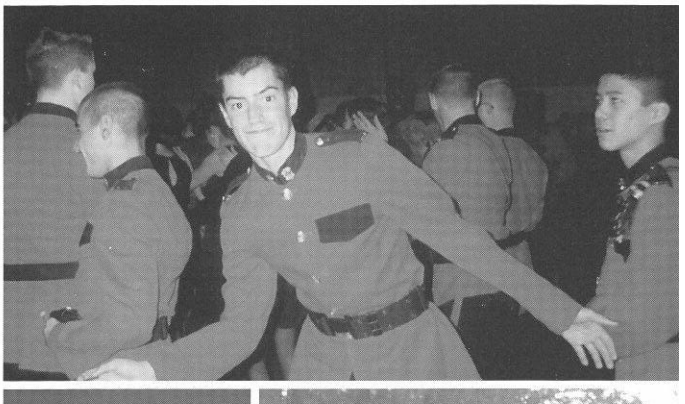

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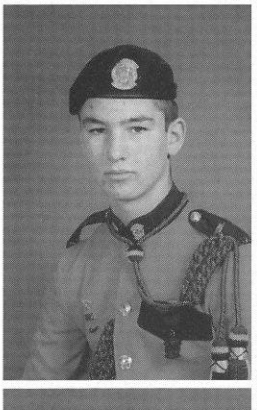
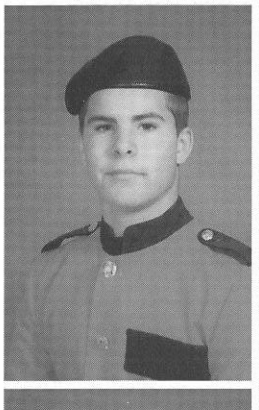
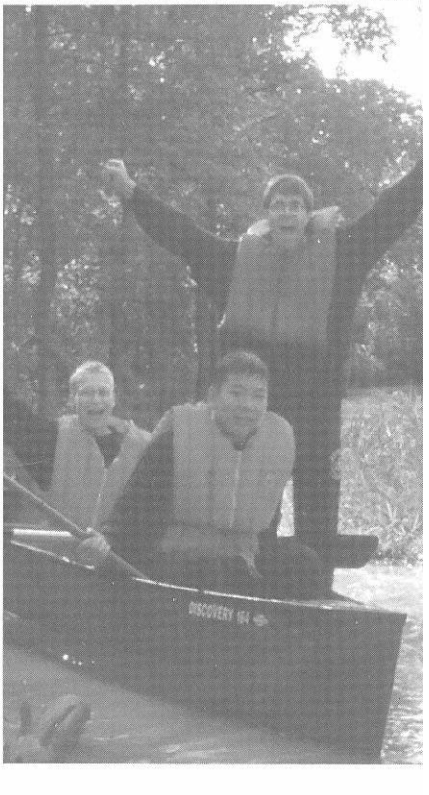
T. Sheridan







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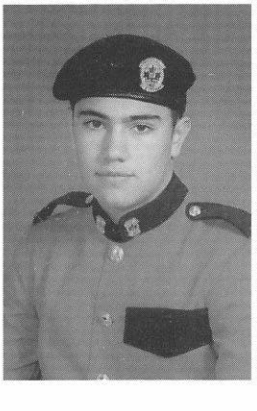
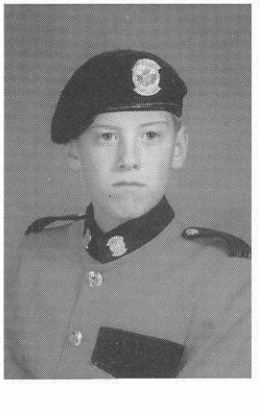
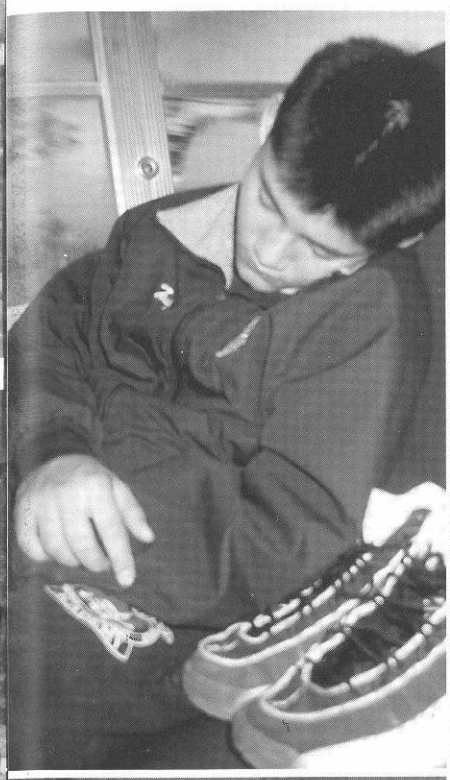
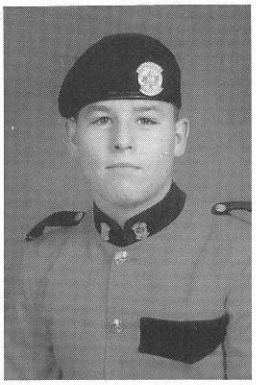
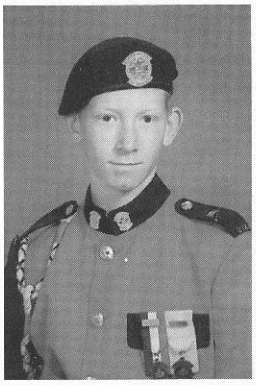
M. Yull











GRADE 10

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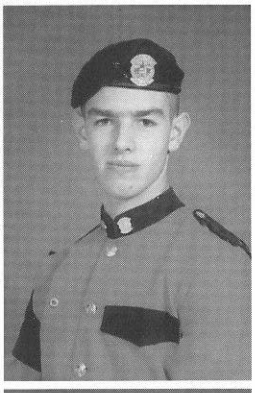
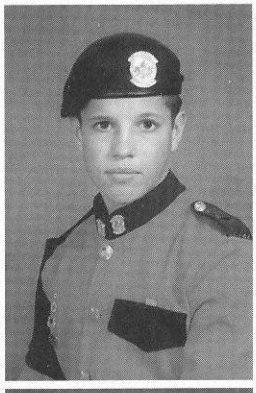
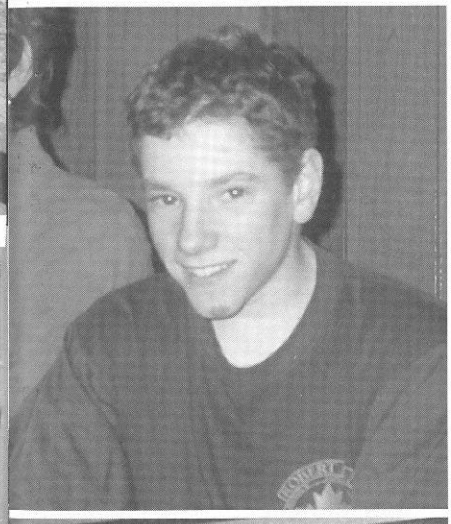
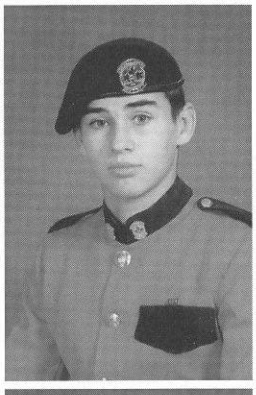
M. Baum
T. Bergen

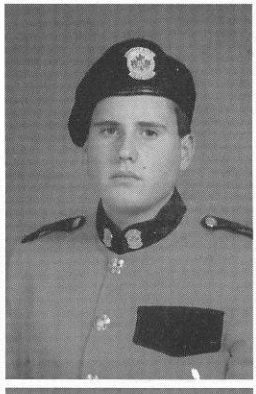




K.C. Bilodeau
B. Boyle
K. Brenninkmeyer







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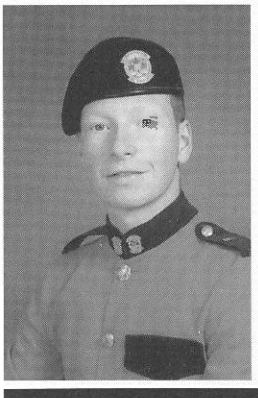
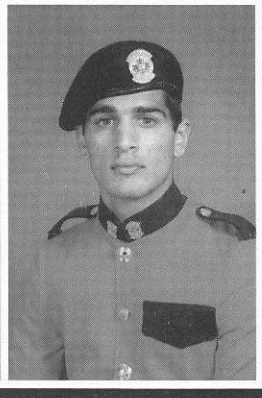
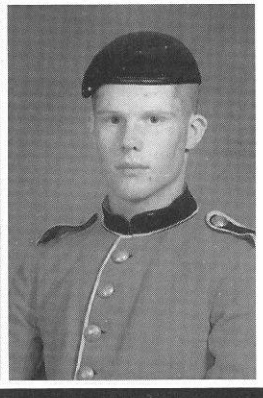
A. Colucci
C. Dobozy







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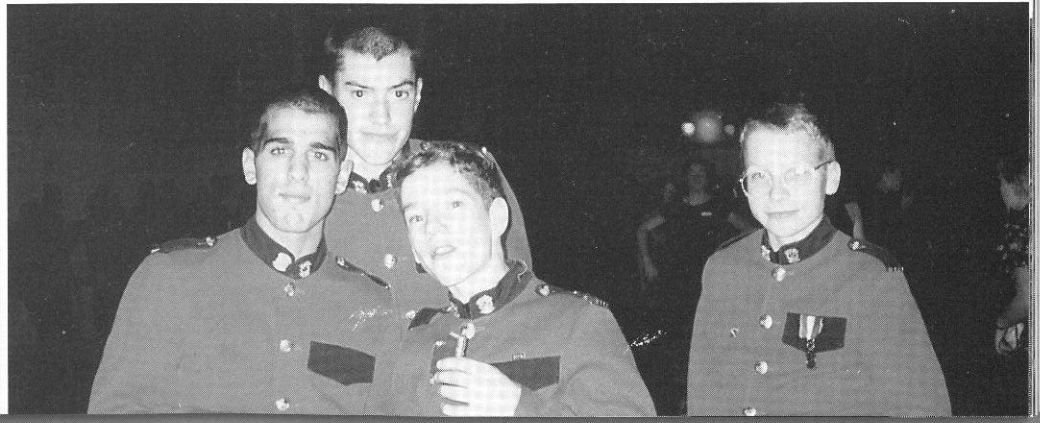
A. Gandhi
M. German



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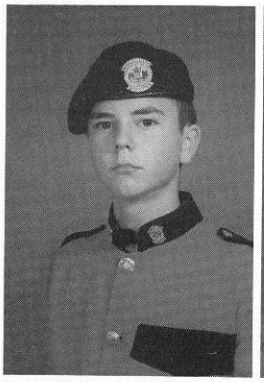
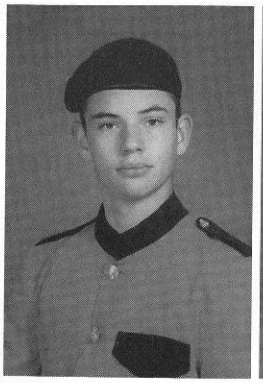
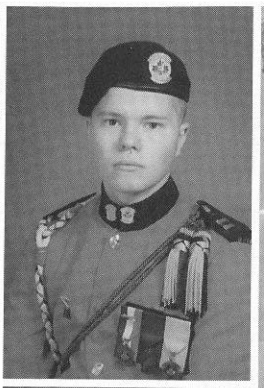
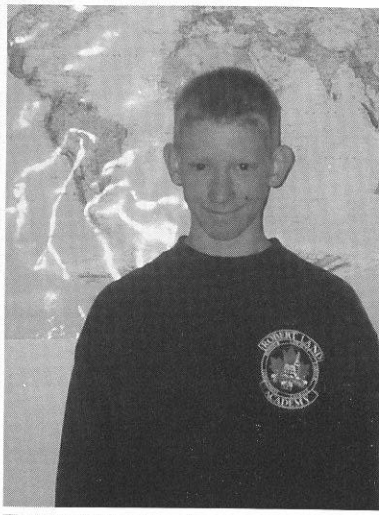

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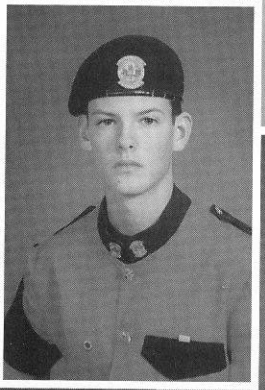
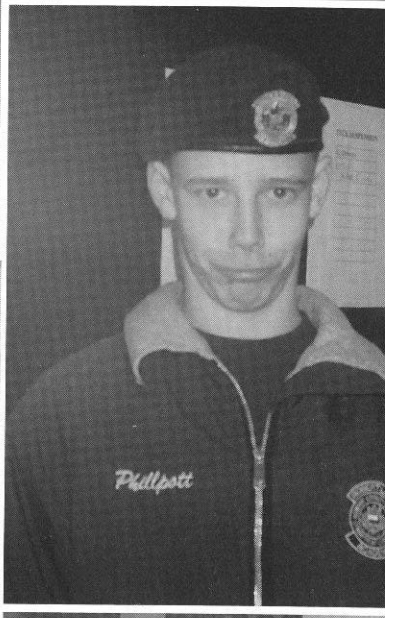
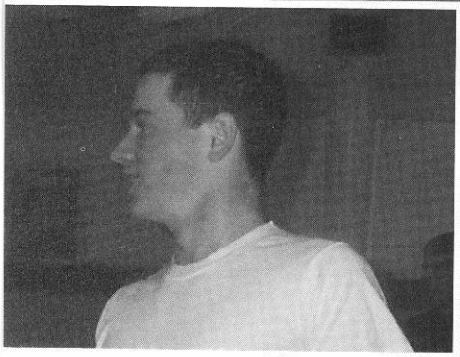
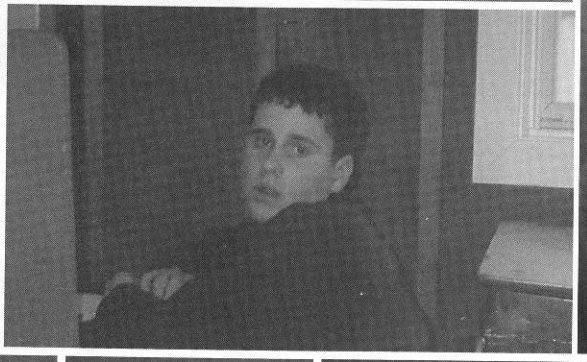
J. Inglis

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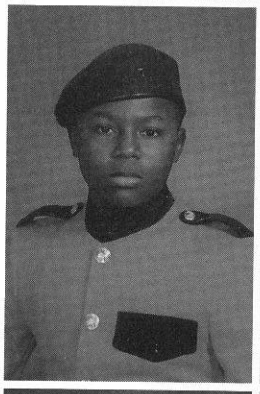
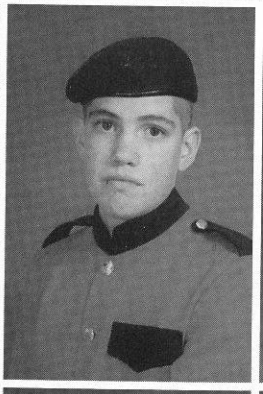
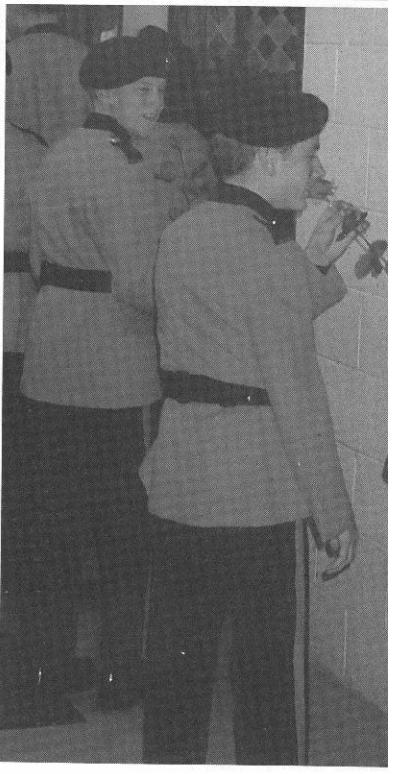
C. Kwok



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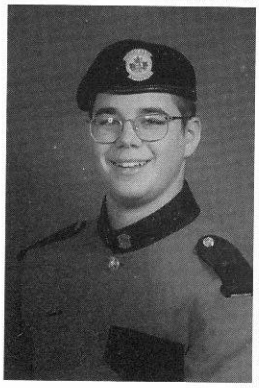
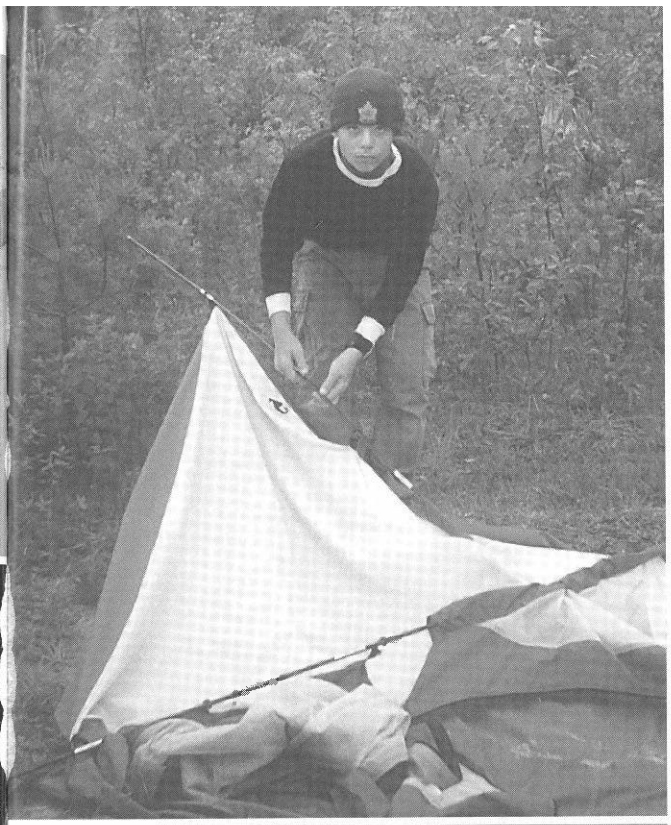
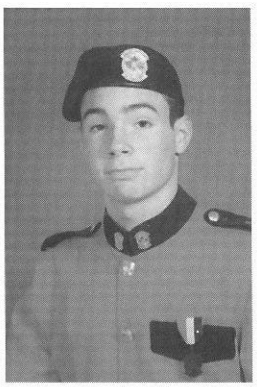
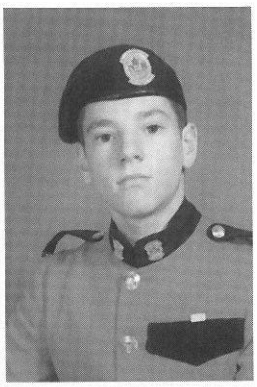
S. Phillpott

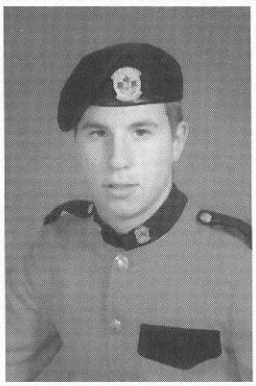








M. Pointon
M. Purcell



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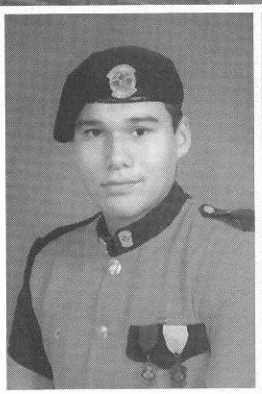
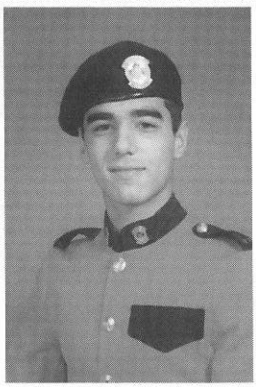
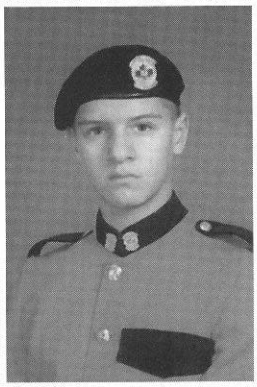
J. Read







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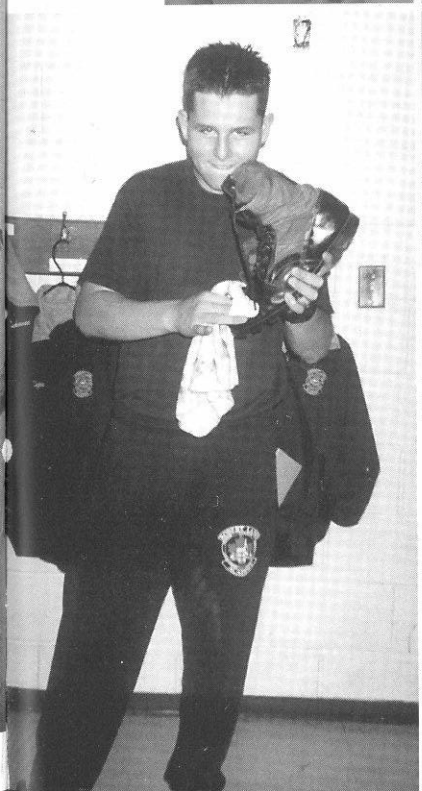
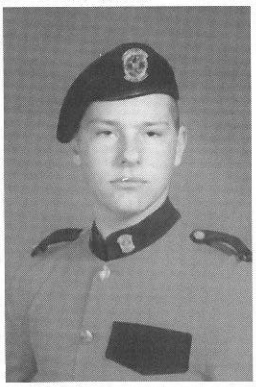
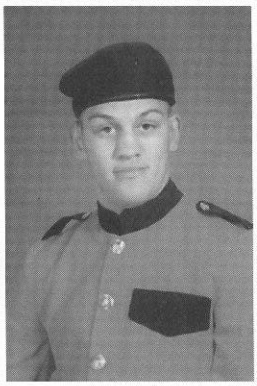
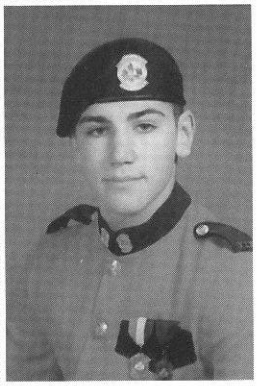
P. Tong
D. Verma
M. Vujcuf





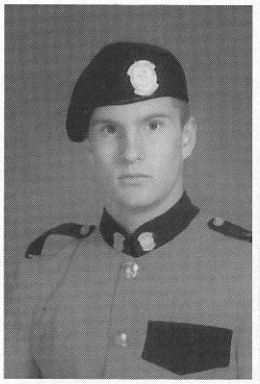
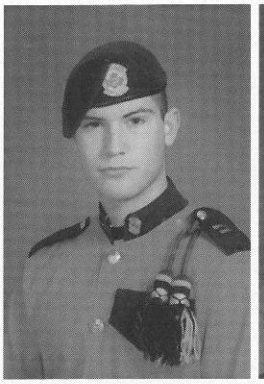
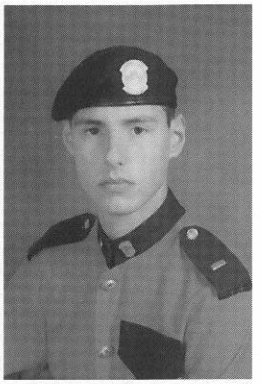




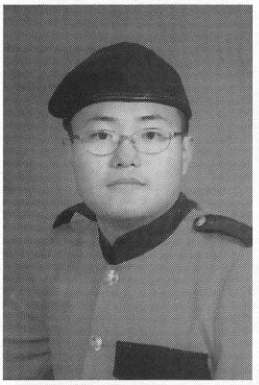
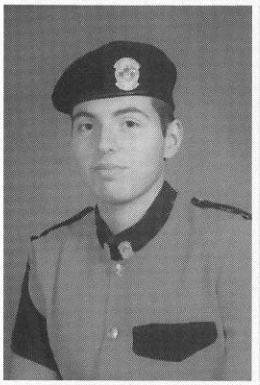
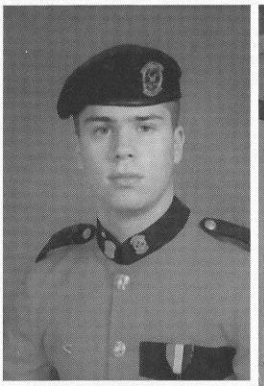
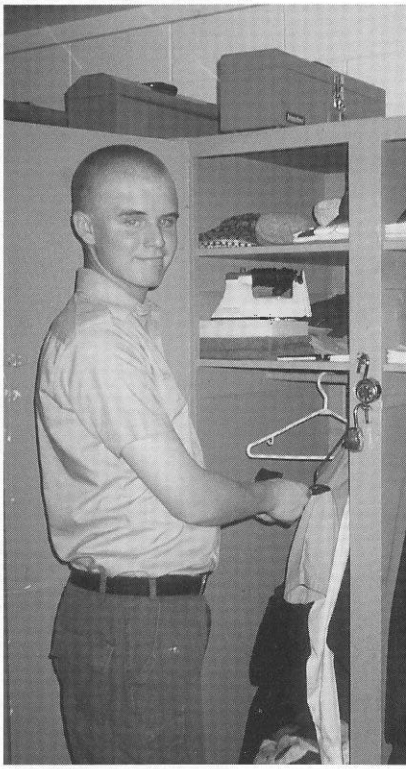
J. Watman
A. Weicker
C. Younge

GRADE 11

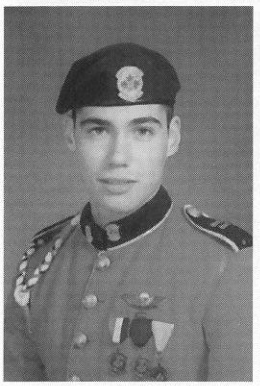
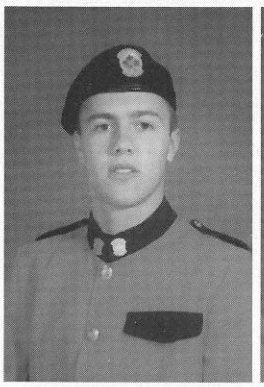
M. Atkin
J. Bartlett
A. Bucci
M. Bukovac

S. Chu
S. Colville
K. Coules

L. Day
S. Dewitt
C. Feeney

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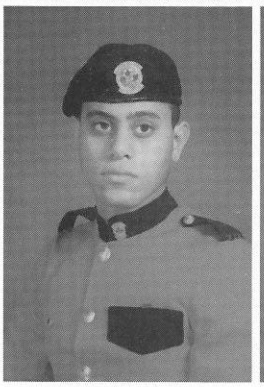
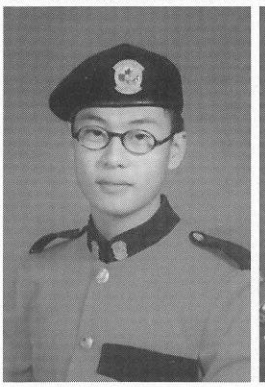
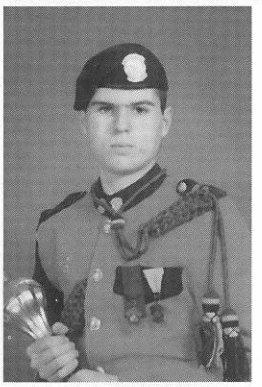

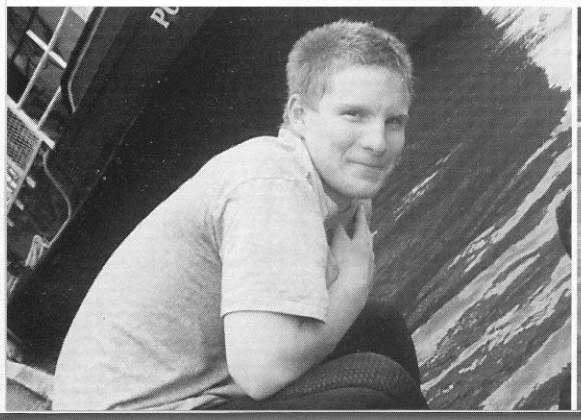

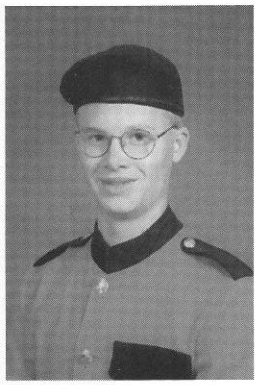

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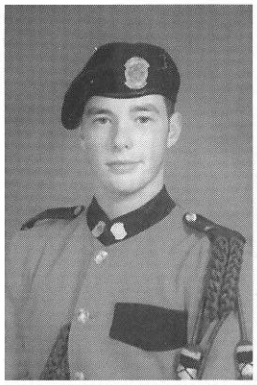

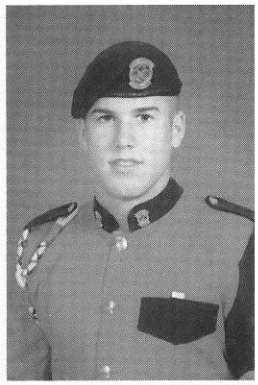

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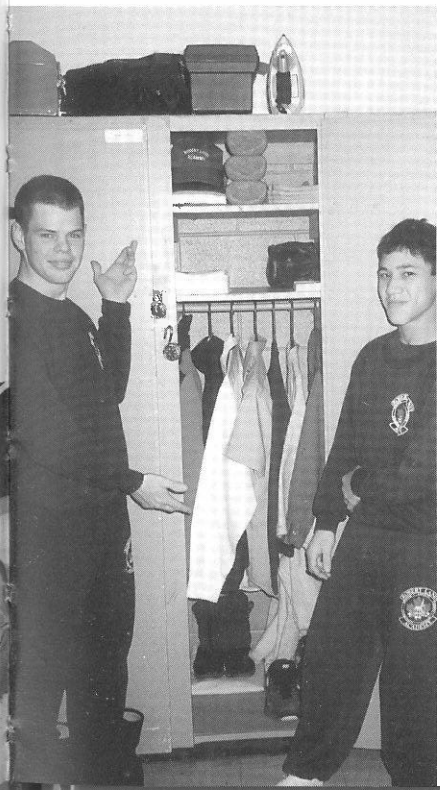

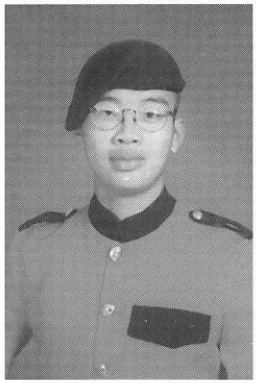

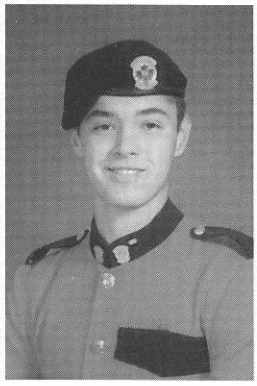

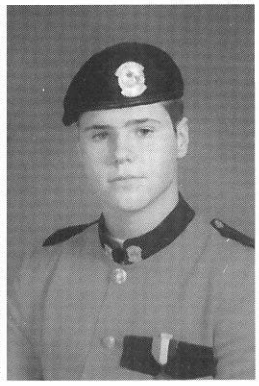

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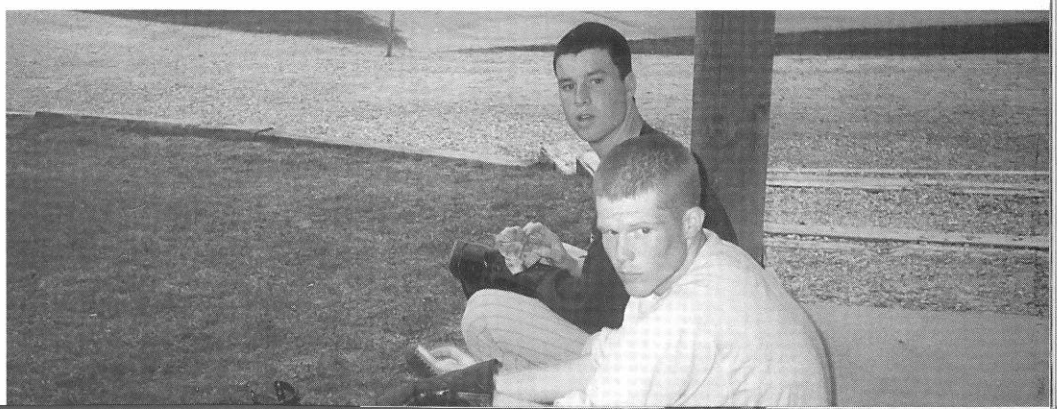

GRADE 12

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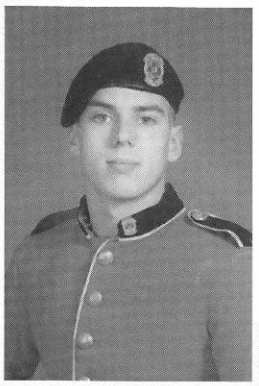
A. Beaton



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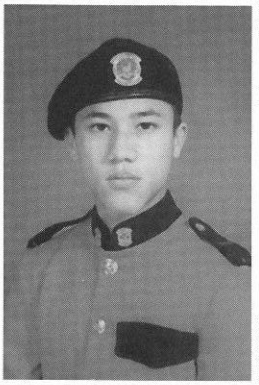

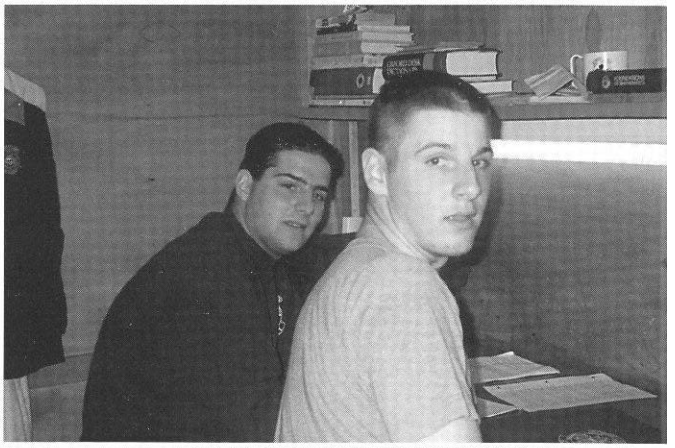

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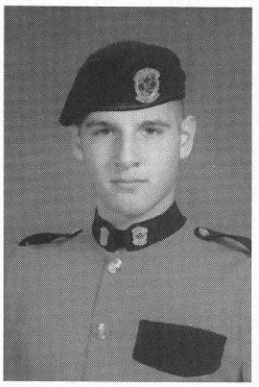

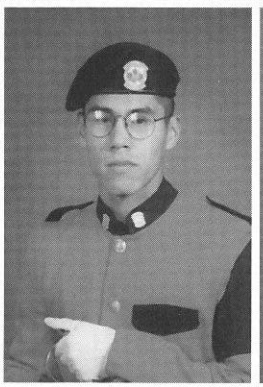

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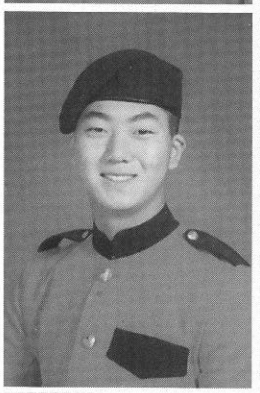

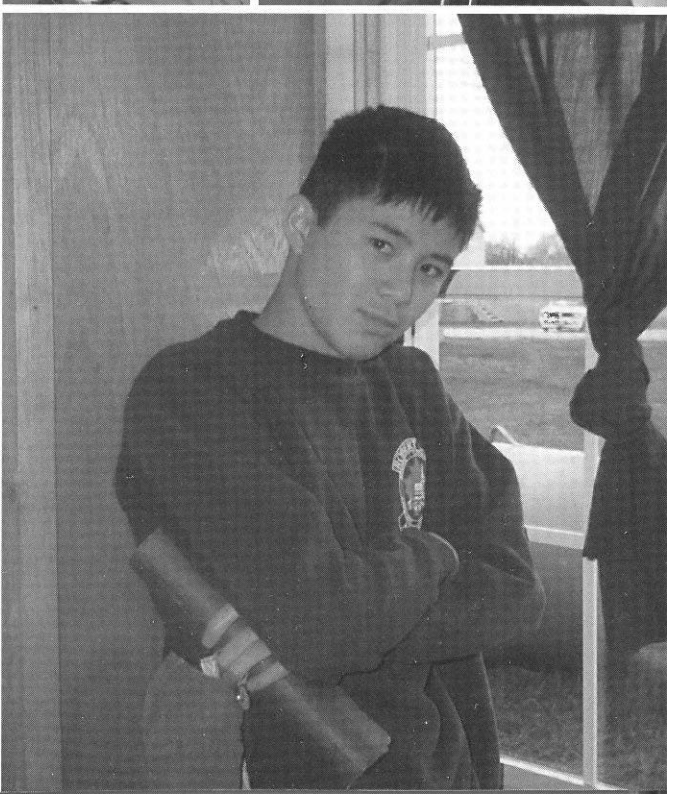

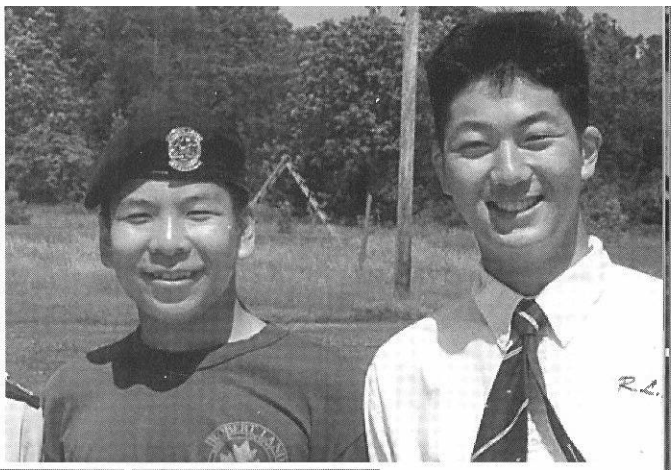

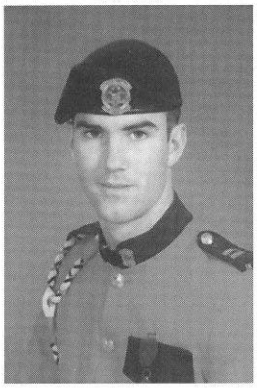

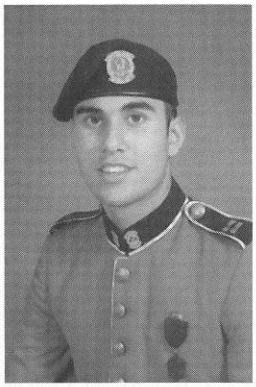

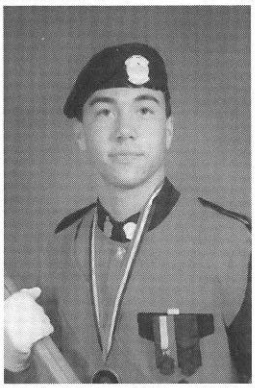

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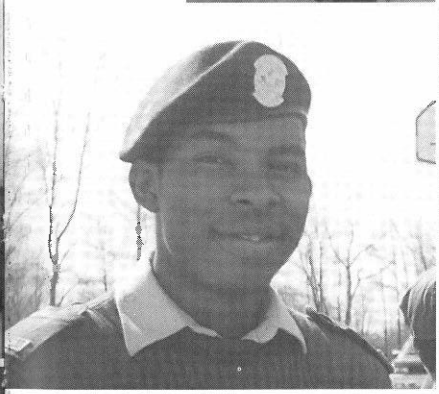
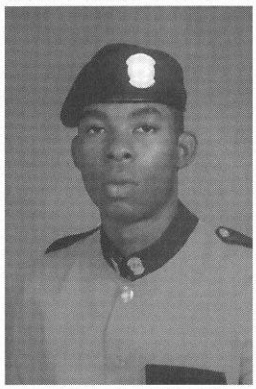
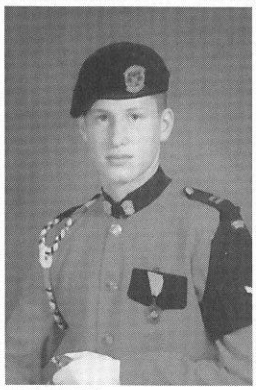
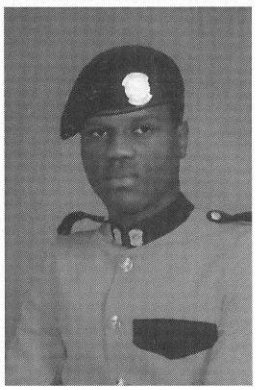
R. Smith









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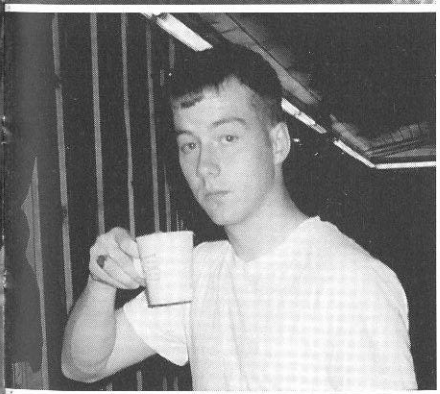

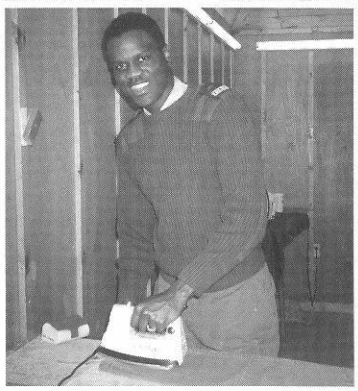

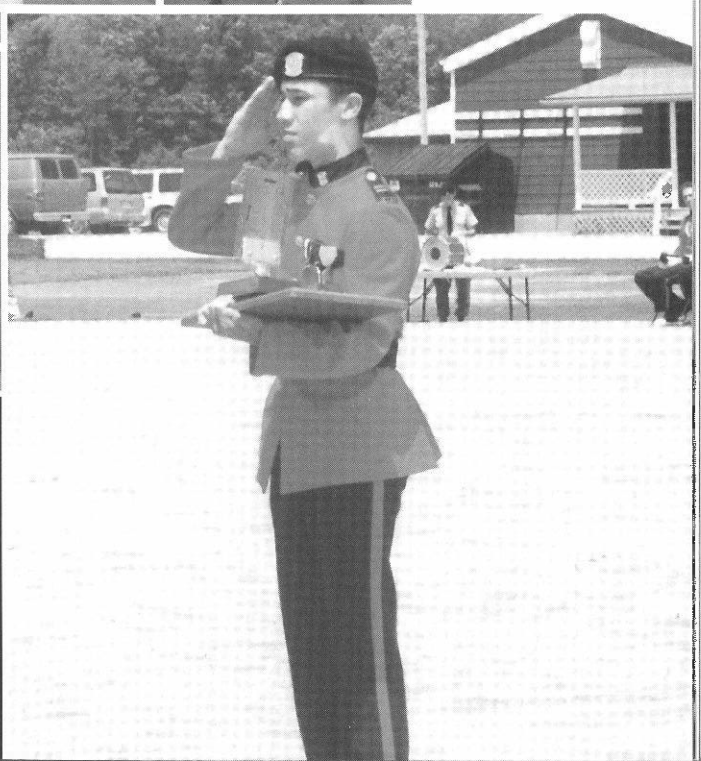

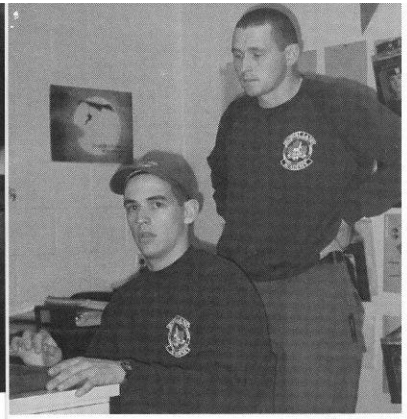

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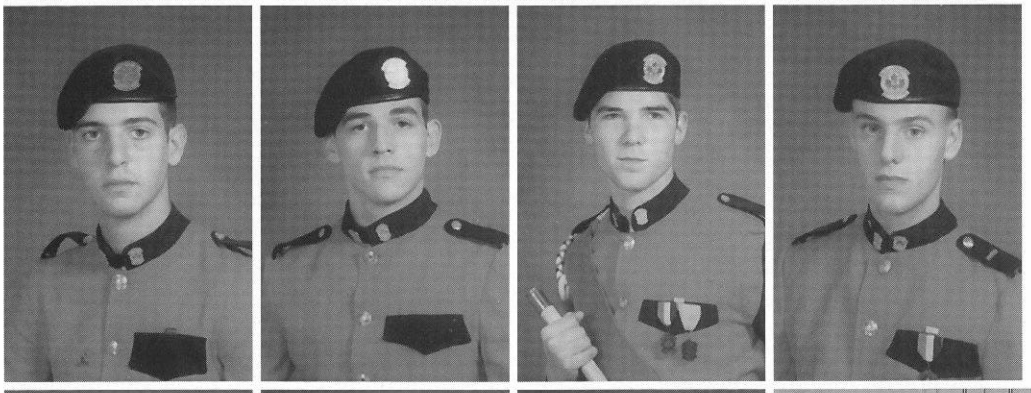
A. Boutros
E. Cheung
R. Chinn
R. Dietrich

A. Freyseng
S. Henderson
C. Lux-Dahl

B. McBride
G. Norton
M. Perusco
F. Pirie



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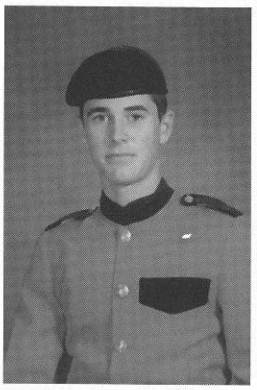
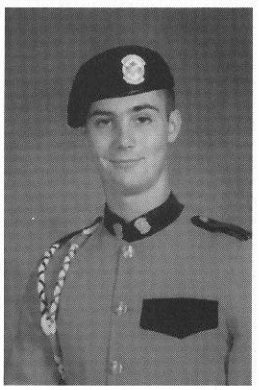
D. Withers

January Arrivals





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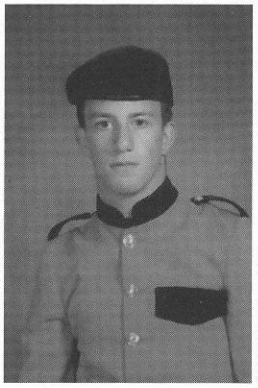

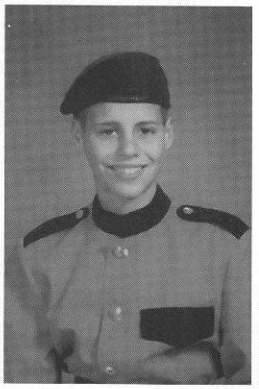

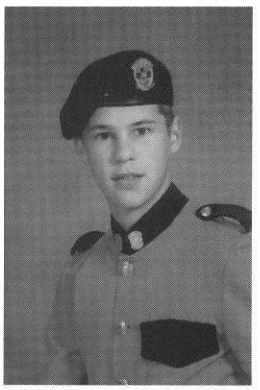

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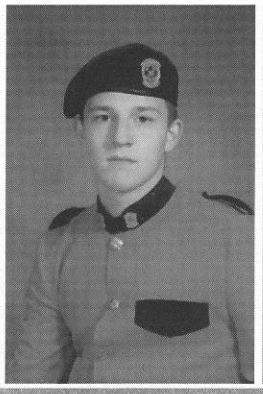
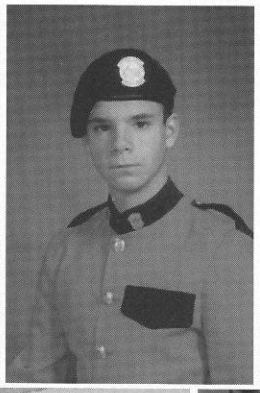
D. Drinkwater





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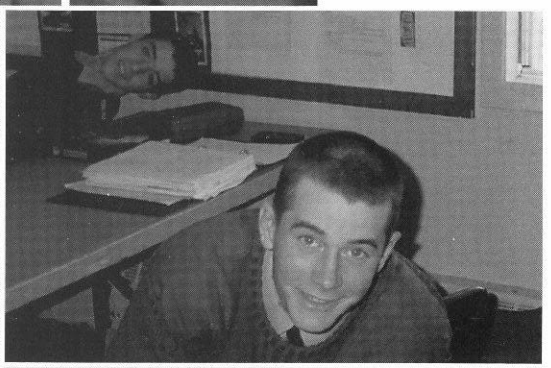

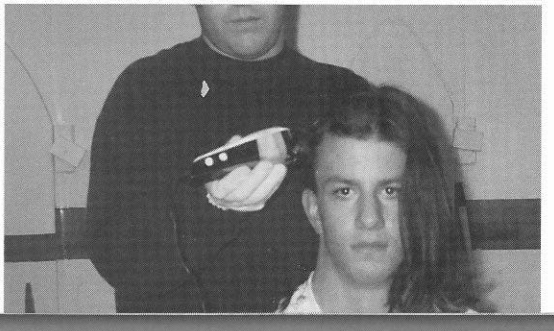

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C. Harbottle
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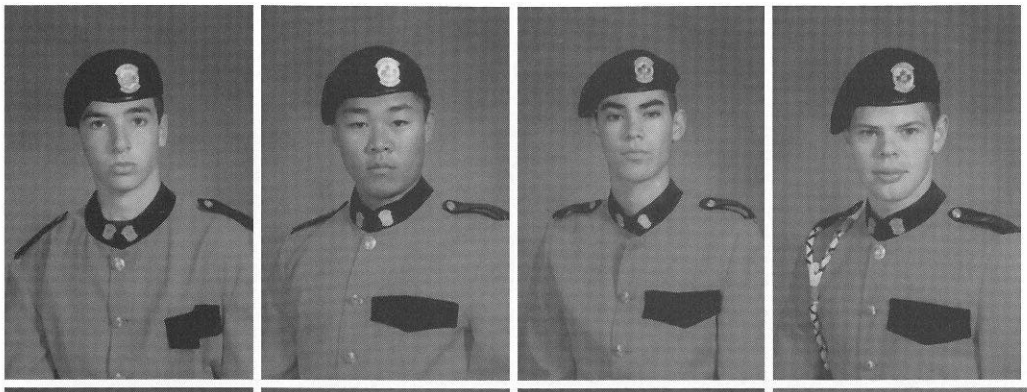

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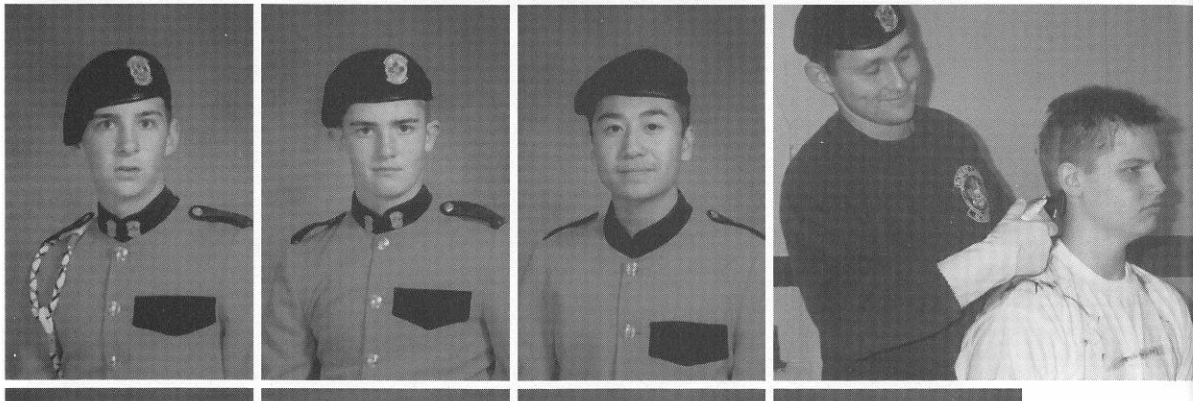
J. Jelley

A. Keays
D. Kilimnik
C. Lee



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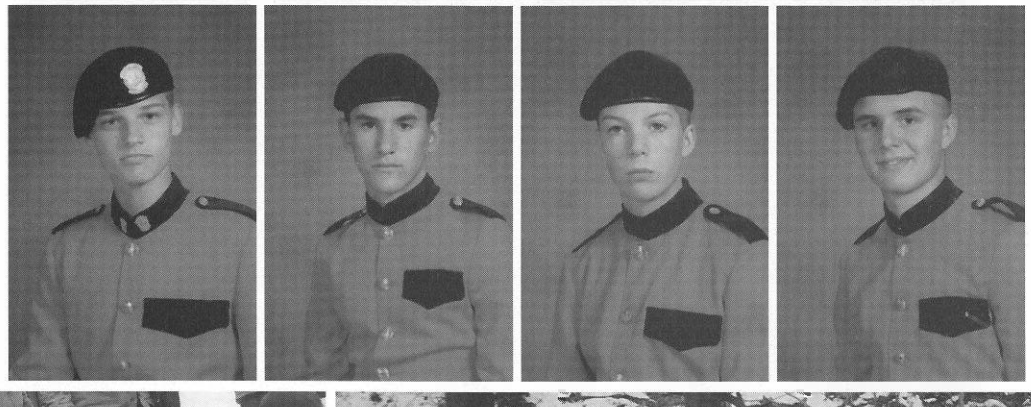

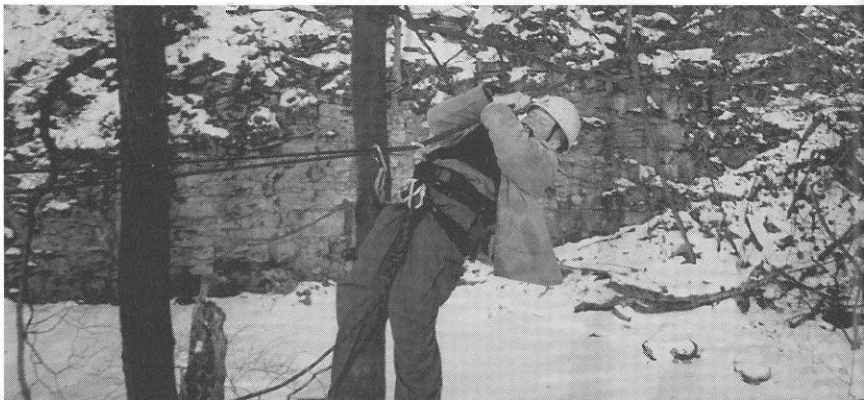

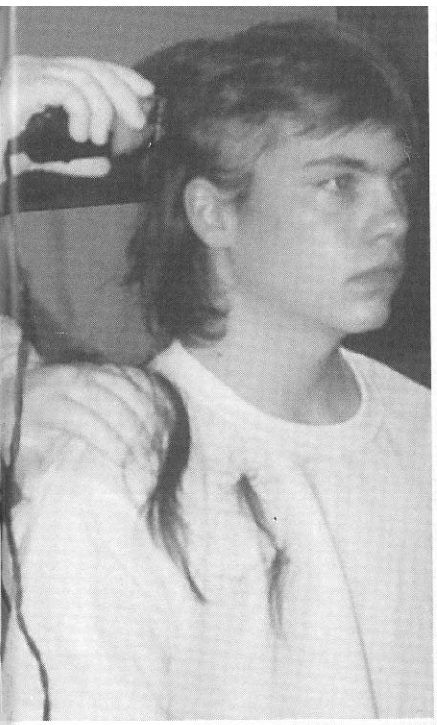

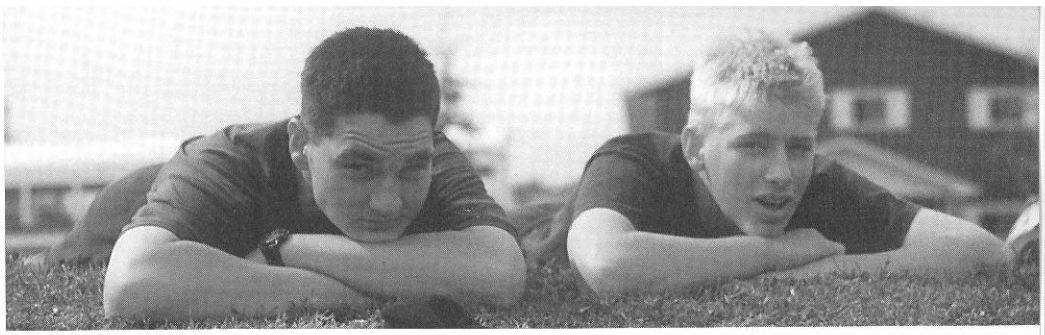

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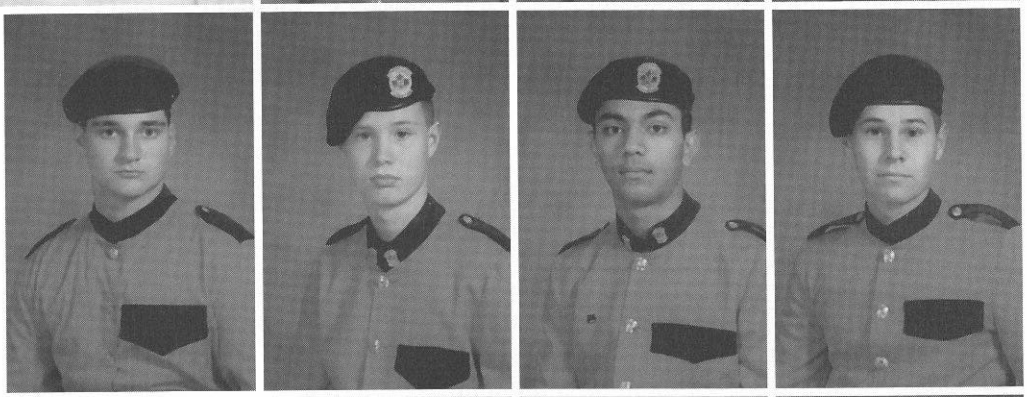
D. Peters
S. Poludnikiewicz



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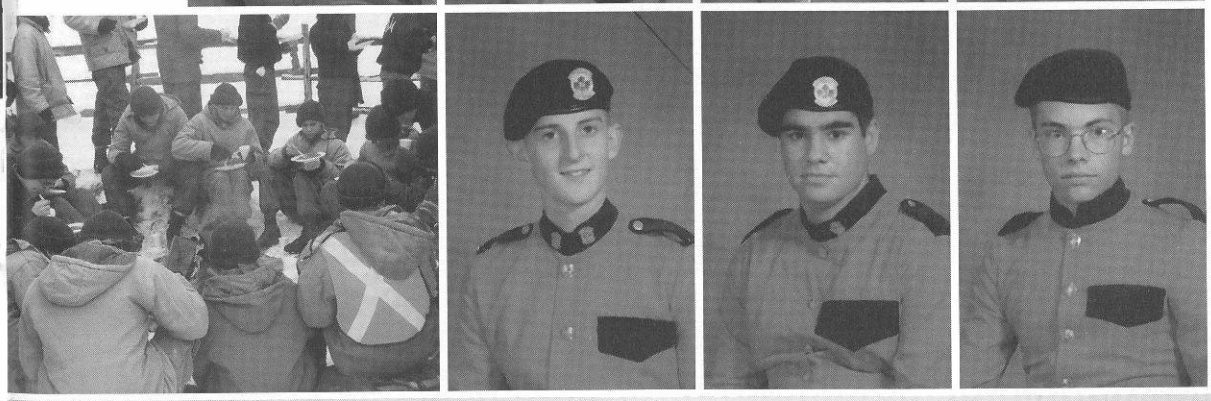

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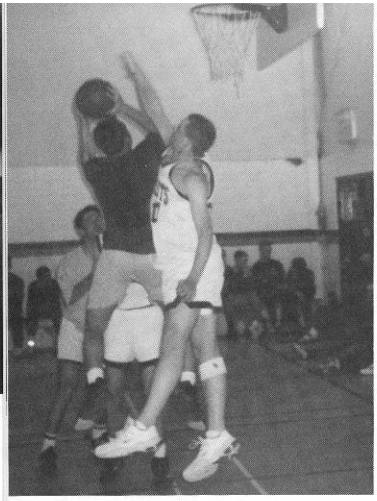
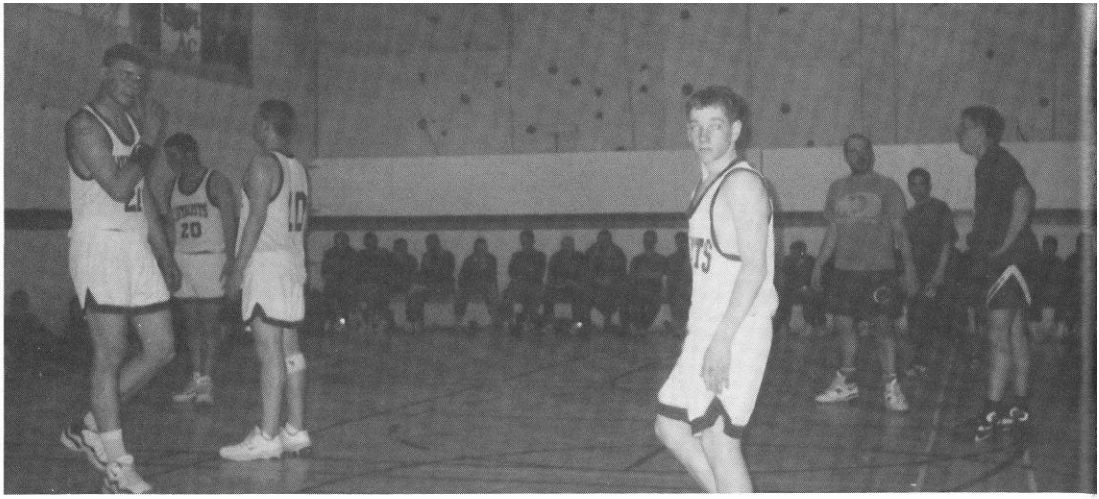
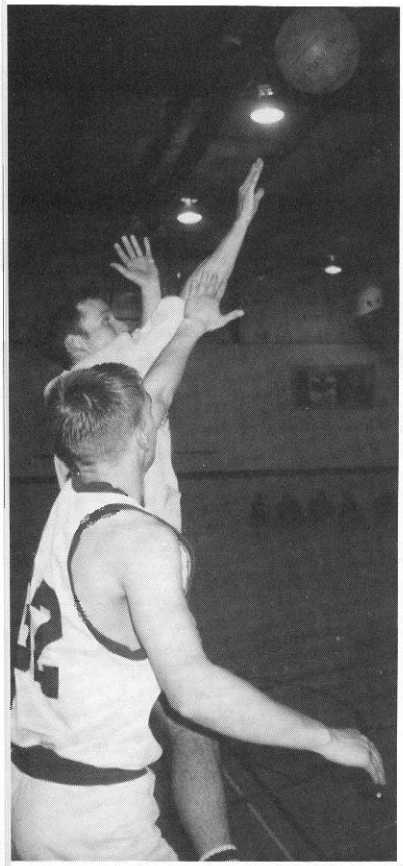
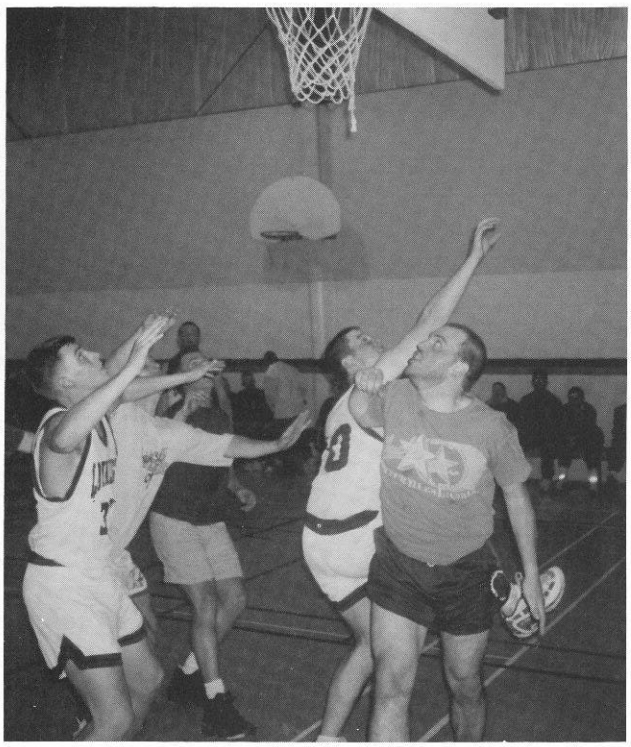
M. Toppi

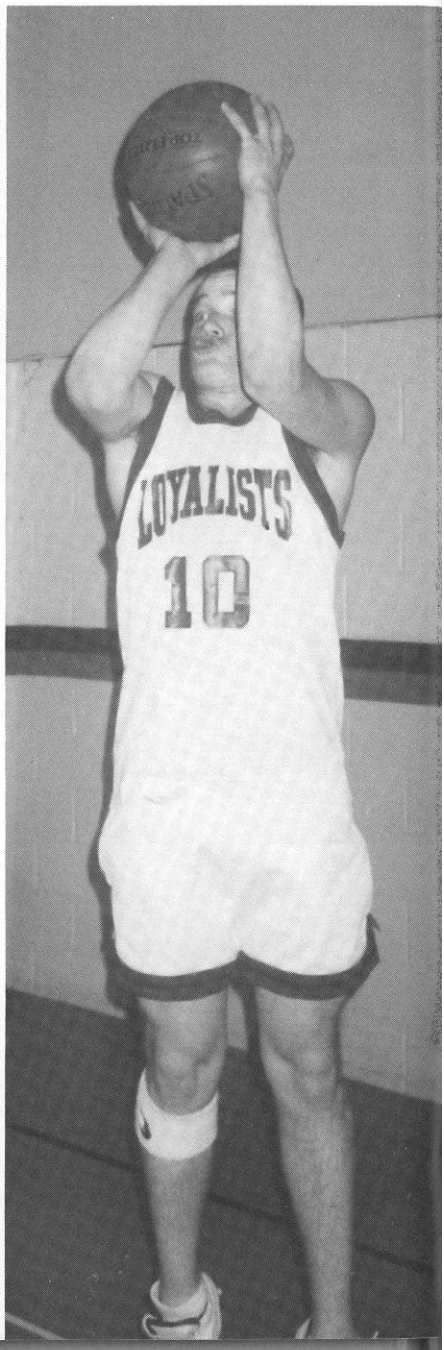




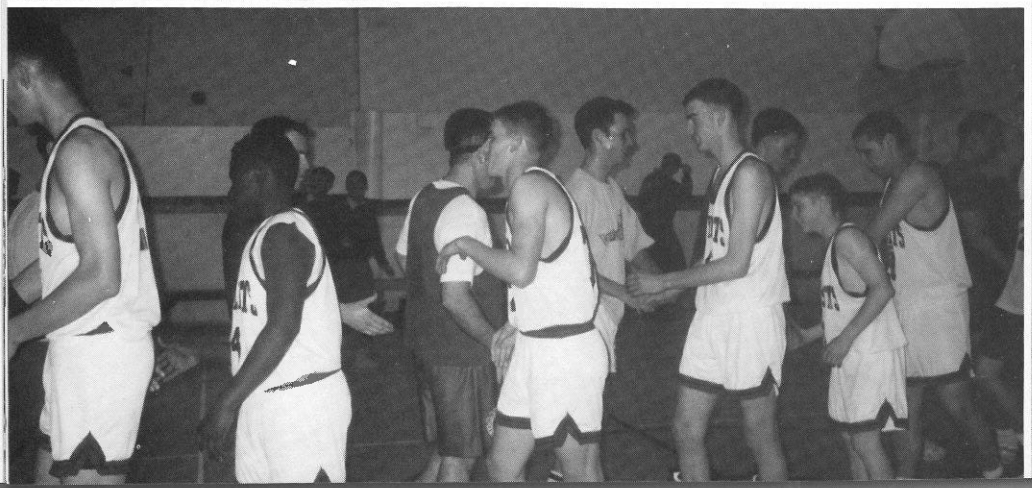
STAFF VS. STUDENTS



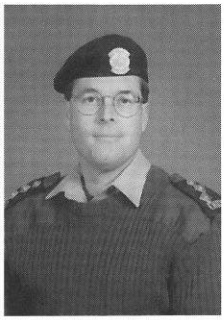
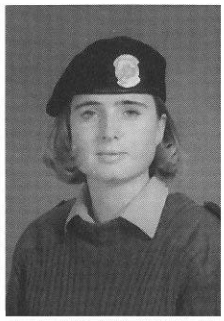
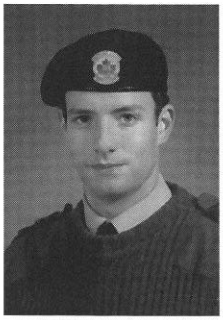
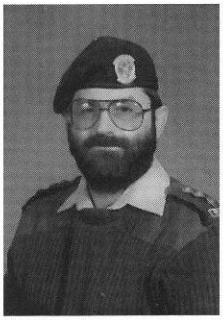




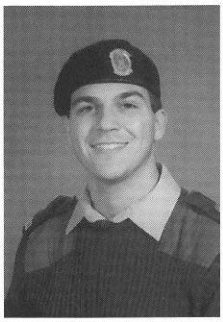
BASKETBALL

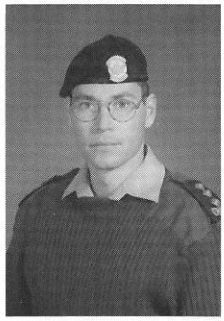


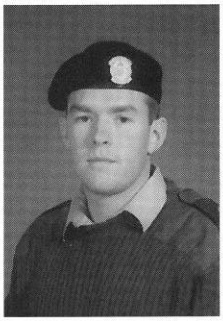
FACULTY/STAFF

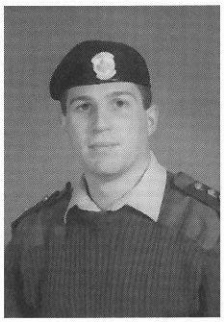
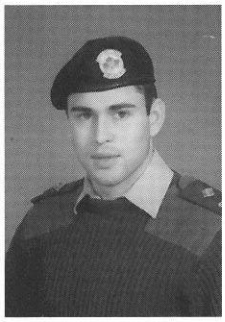
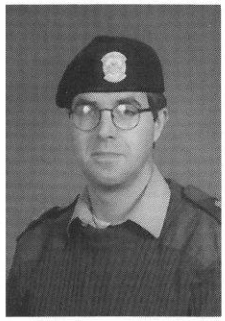
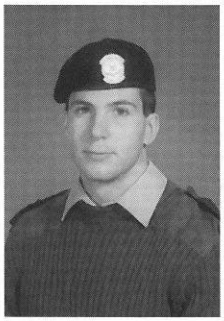
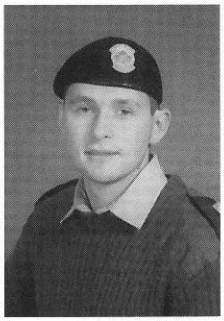
Capt. Bird
Capt. Black
Lt. Donofrio
Lt. Downey
Capt. Erola



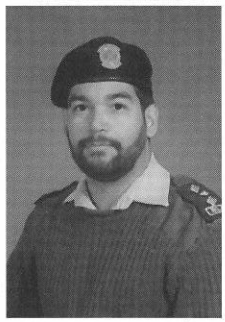
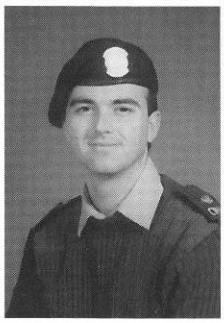
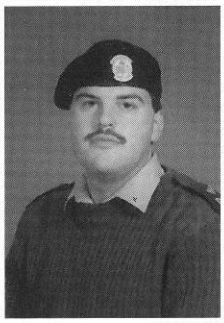




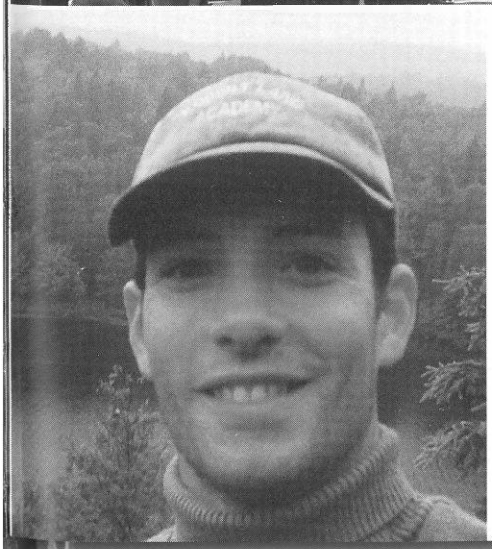
Lt. Fricano
Lt. Gareau
Capt. Gibson
Capt. Harley
Lt. Morris

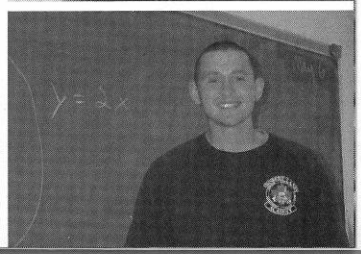






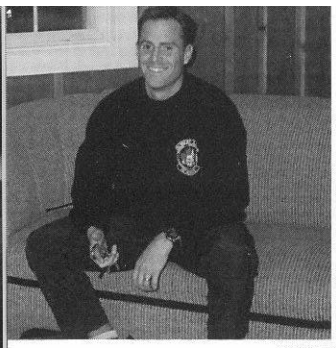
Capt. Papaioannou
Lt. Reid
Lt. Roe
Lt. Sammon
Lt. Seckler

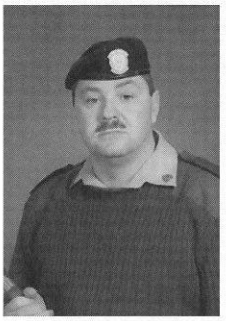
Capt. Vermont
Lt. White
Lt. Williams

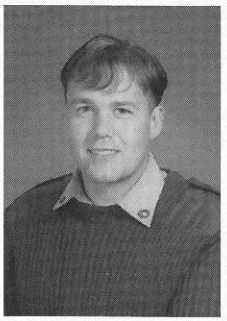


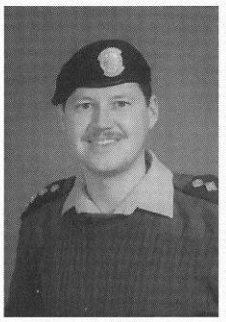




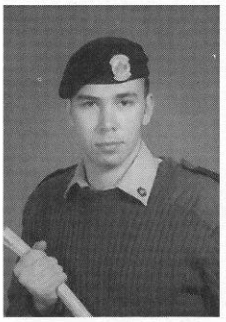
ASM McAndrews
DSM Sinclair
Capt. Spaan

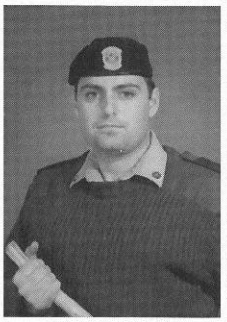


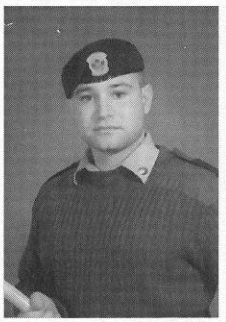


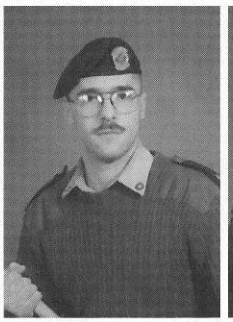


CSM Coulen
CSM Inglis
CSM Zahra
CSM Bates
Warrant Boland

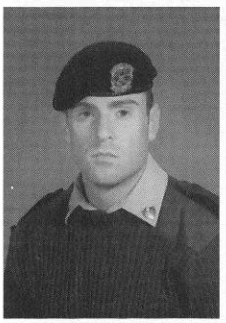


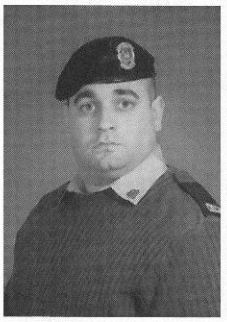


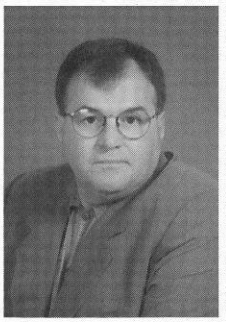


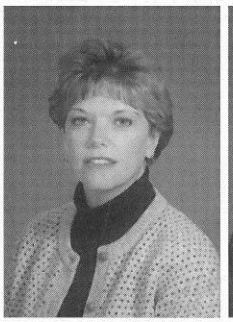


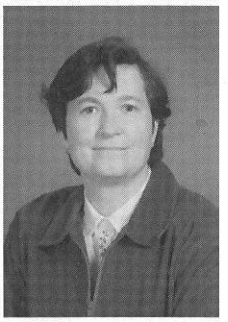
S. Sgt. Lee
S. Sgt. Ryan
Capt. LeClerc
D. McDonald
P. Spiller



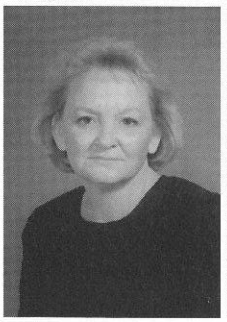


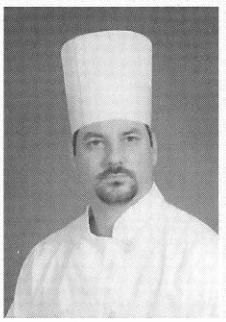


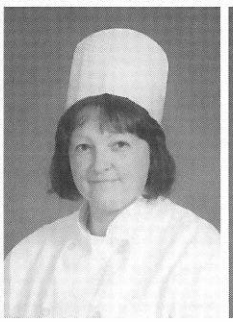


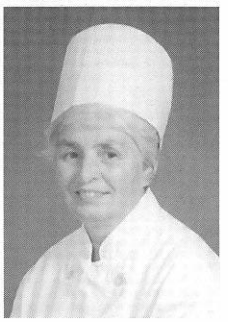


J. Turgeon
J. Tomiak
B. Ness
A. Leech
M. Murphy

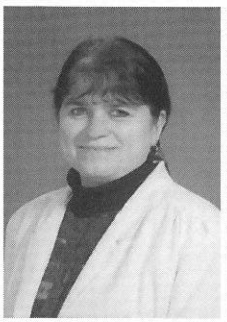


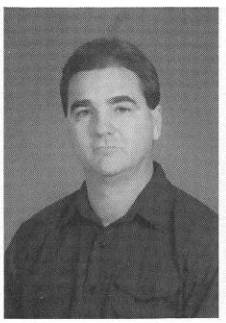


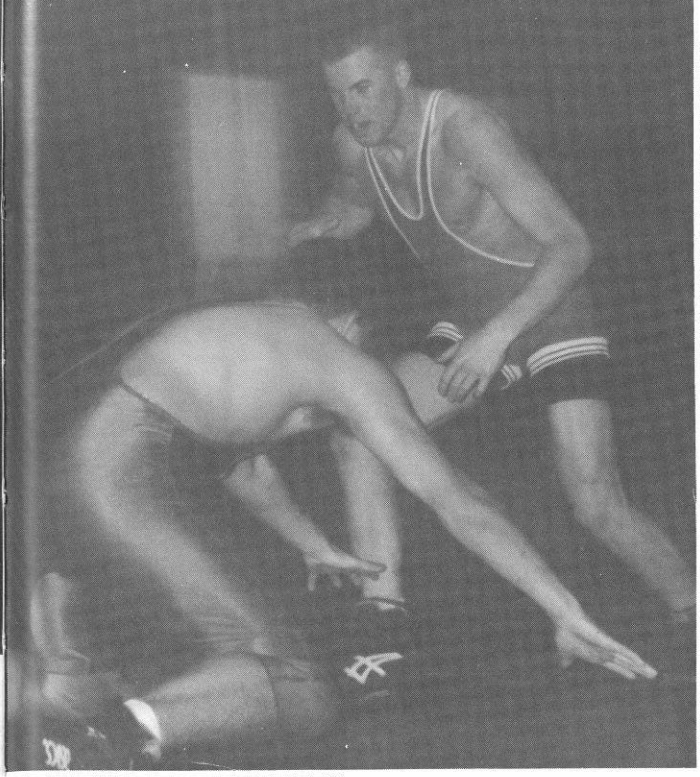


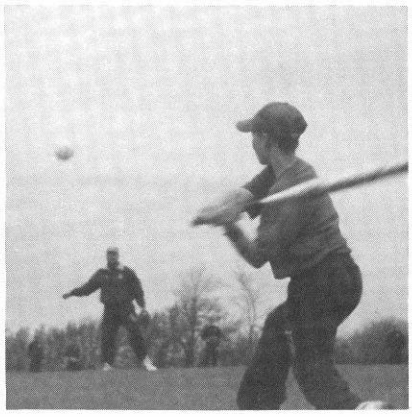


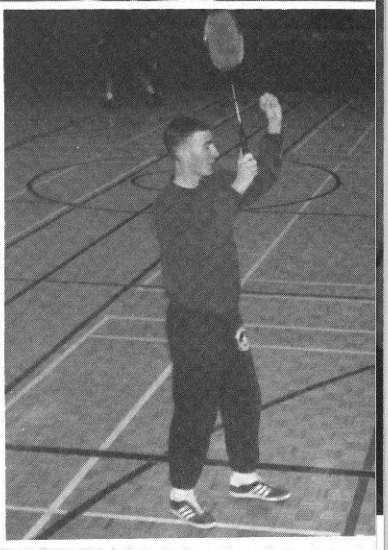
D. Graham
G. Melikow
A. Jones



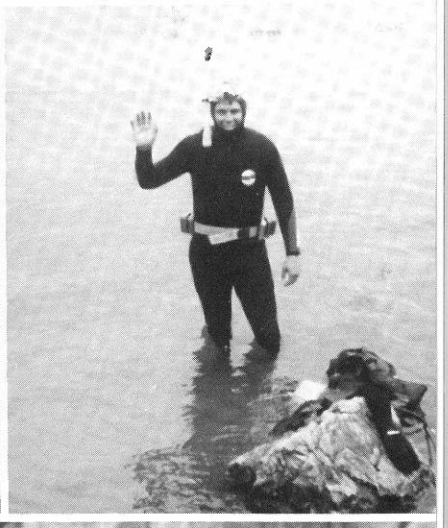


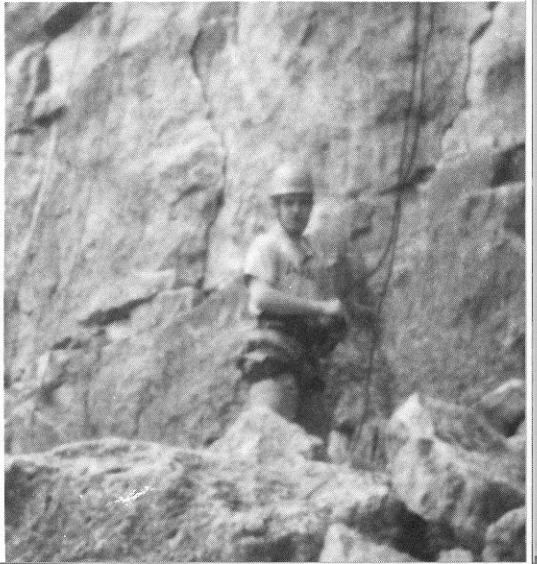






SPORTS/CLUBS

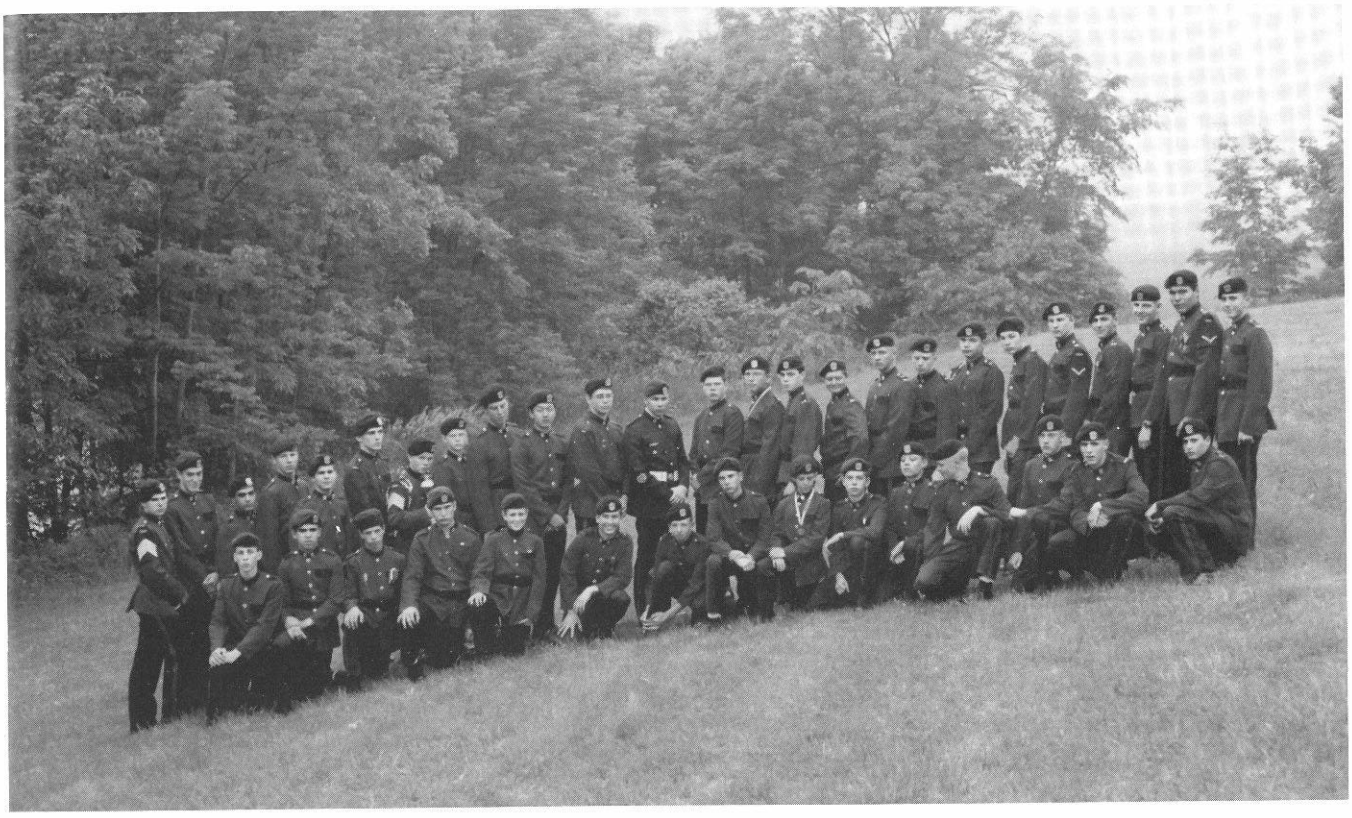




Band

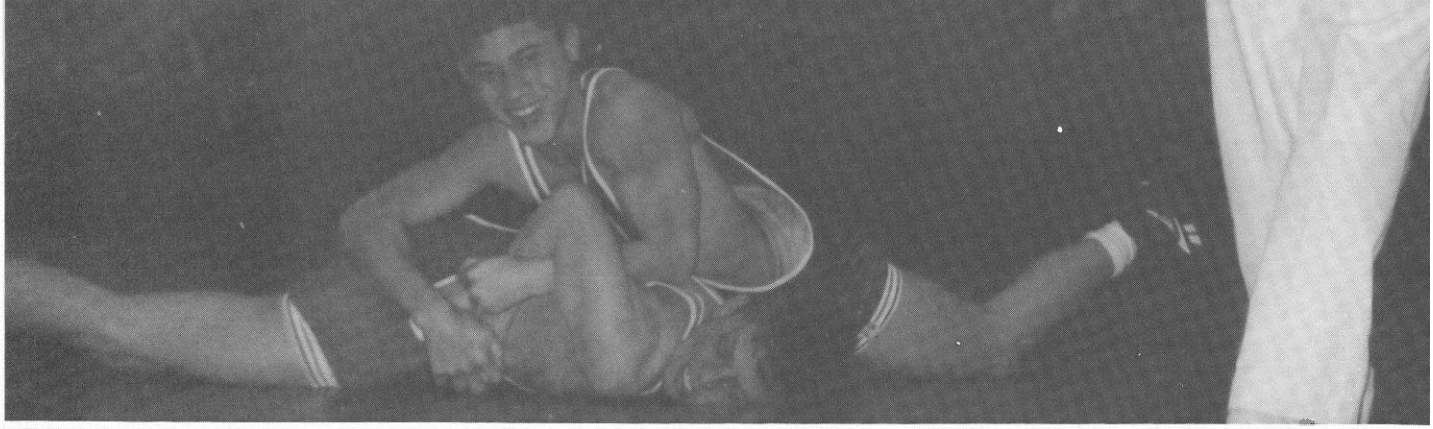
FROM LEFT TO RIGHT - C. Lanteigne, M. Yull, G. Norton, S. Phillpott, P. Wankum, M. McDonald, T. Sheridan, K. Tam, G. Hart, J. Harkness, M. Atkin, D. Gildiner, S. Poludnikiewicz, K. Holz, J. Norton, B. McBride, M. Rossi, M. Vujcuf, J. Marsh, R. Traversy, A. Abdel-Meseeh, C. Chan, D. Kim, J. Kung, W. Ki, C. Feeney, D. Smith, G. Osio, J. Whittaker, R. Hong, P. Tong.

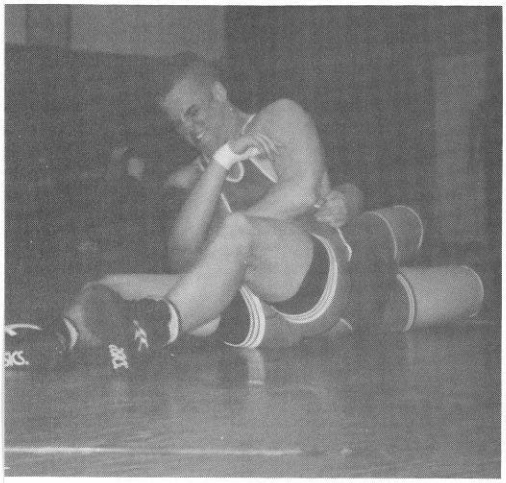
Jiu-Jitsu/X-Country

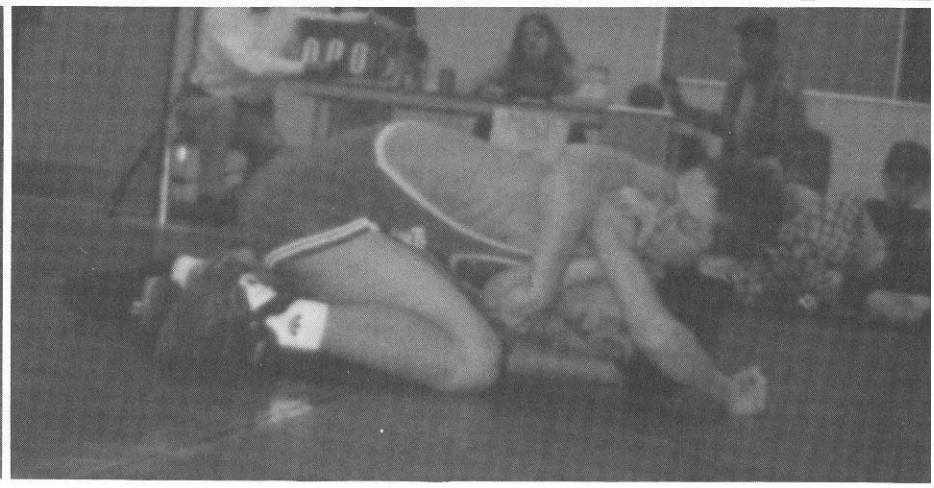


FROM TOP LEFT TO BOTTOM RIGHT - G. Hart, J. Knowles, D. Verma, J. Watman, T. Sheridan, G. Norton, K. Holz, M. Dalinda, C. Feeney, D. Kim, J. Marsh, CSM Coulen, J. Read, P. Wankum, R. Chong, R. Klees, M. Vujcuf, M. Atkin, S. Mark, M. Rossi, J. Barlett, C. Younge, J. Harkness, J. Ross, B. Marra, M. Mills, K. Demedeiros, K. Brenninkmeyer, A. Bucci, M. McDonald, J. Norton, M. Dunkley, M. Giannandrea, M. Kelly, M. Harbord, R. Hughes, S. Lucas, M. Baum, C. Jenne, A. Colucci.

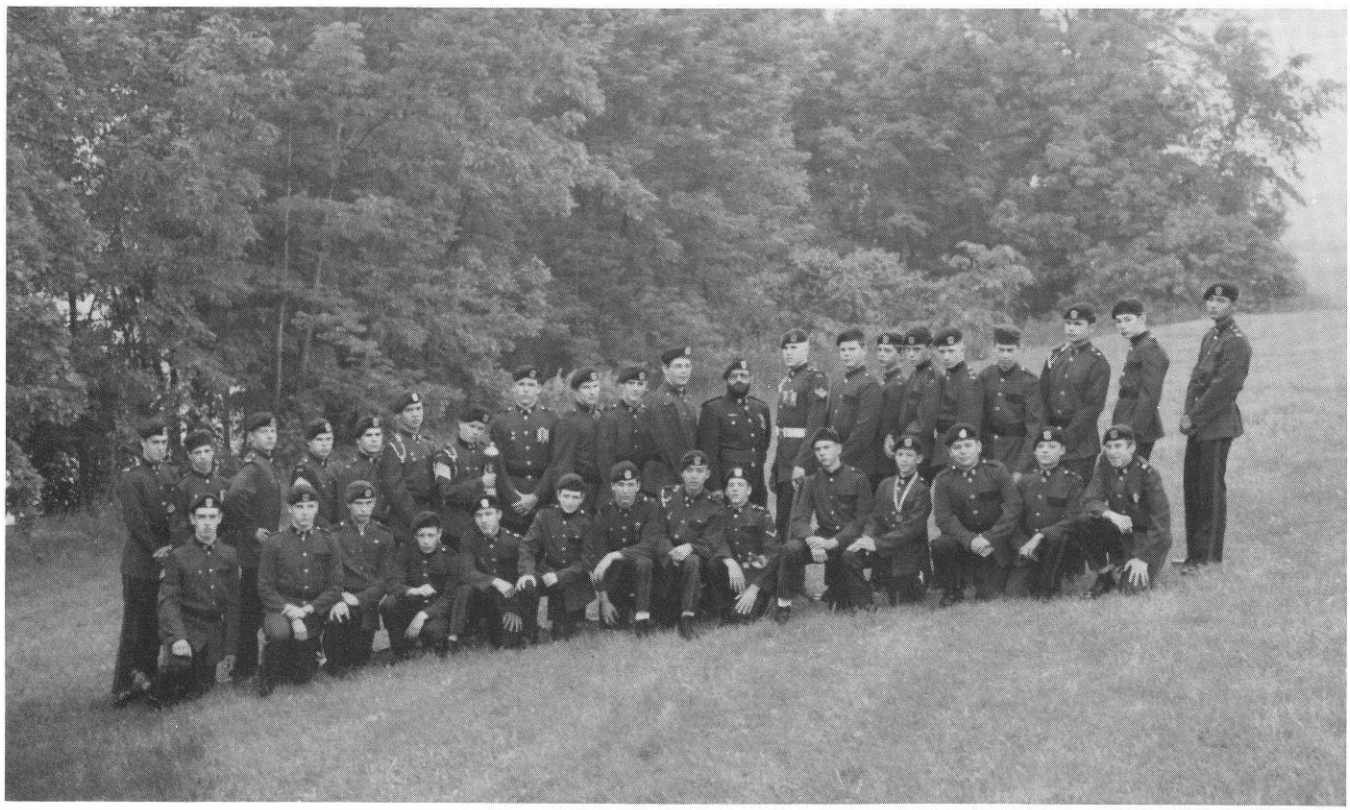
Lt. Reid, J. Inglis, M. Tomkiw, A. Gandhi, A. Jelley, J. Read, F. Pirie, A. Beaton, R. Chinn, J. Knowles, C. Dobozy, Lt. Sammon, R. Mitchell, J. Ross, K. Brenninkmeyer, C. Chinn, M. McDonald, J. Norton, N. Moore.





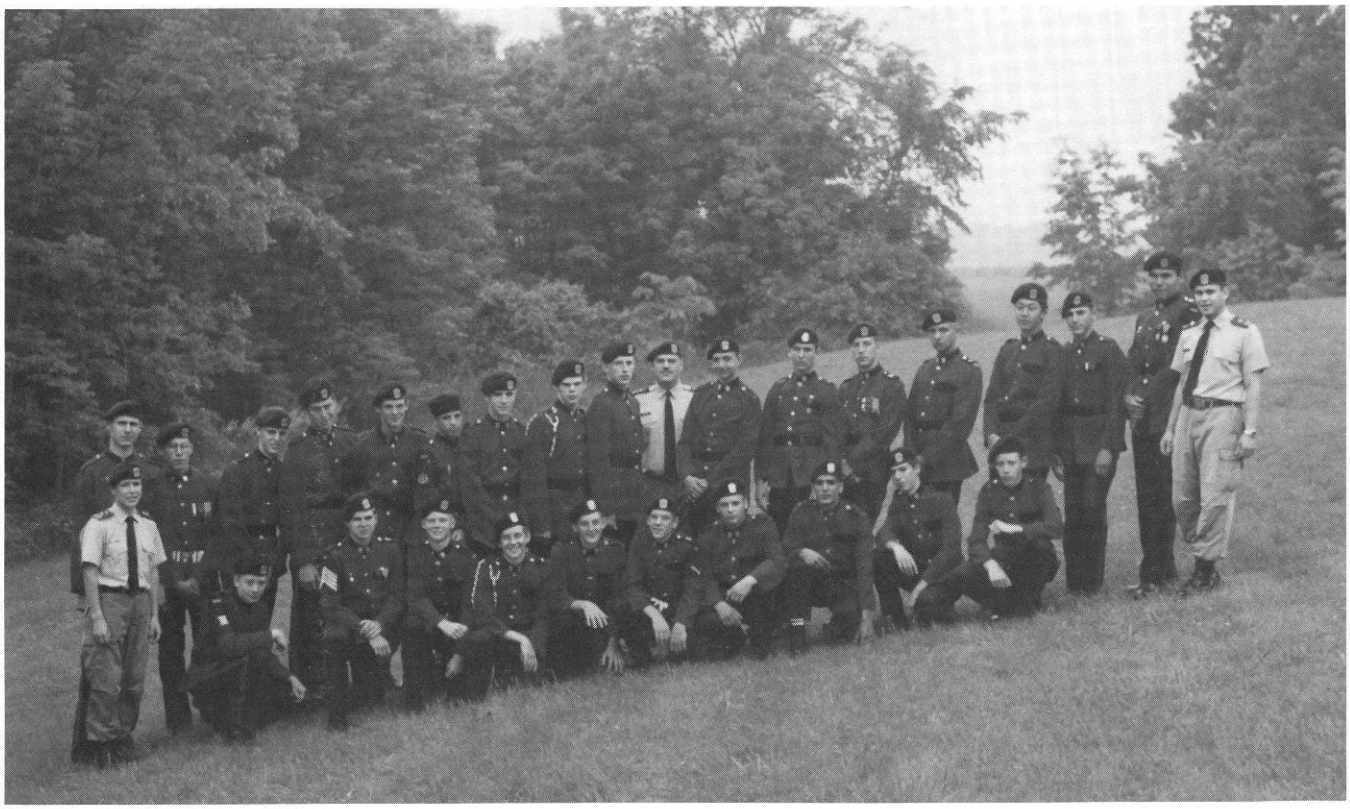


WRESTLING

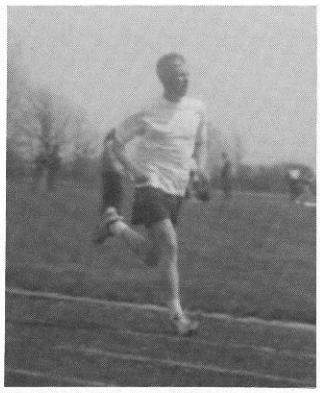


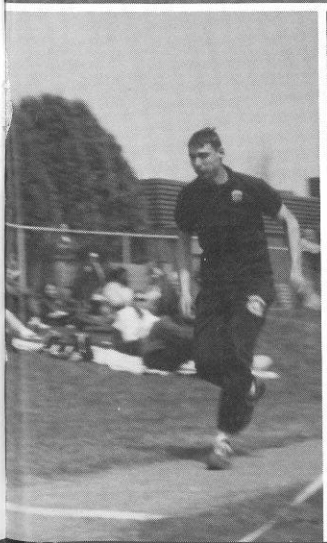
J. Knowles, K. Brenninkmeyer, J. Watman, G. Hart, T. Sheridan, R. Chinn, K. Holz, G. Battaglin, J. Bartlett, C. Jenne, J. Marsh, Capt. Erola, A. Staffen, J. Read, M. Harbord, R. Chong, M. Atkin, C. Brown, S. Mark, M. Rossi, P. Tong, K. Bilodeau, J. Harkness, A. Bucci, S. Phillpott, C. Chinn, M. McDonald, J. Norton, C. Chan, M. Purcell, M. Giannandrea, M. Kelly, C. Lux-Dahl, R. Hughes, C. Lanteigne.

TRACK & FIELD



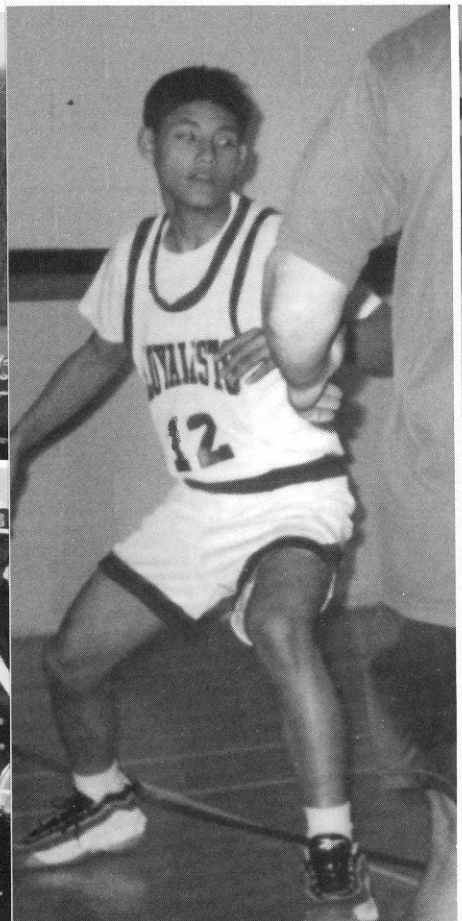
Lt. Gareau, M. Bukovac, A. Jelley, F. Pirie, C. Feeney, J. Inglis, K. Brenninkmeyer, C. Jenne, M. Harland, D. Peters, Lt. Williams, B. Boyle, J. Norton, R. Mitchell, M. Vujcuf, D. Kim, C. Younge, J. Ross, Lt. Reid, M. Atkin, G. Hart, M. Dalinda, A. Keays, D. Smith, M. Purcell, D. Pellerin, A. Gandhi, J. Holgate, S. Phillpott.

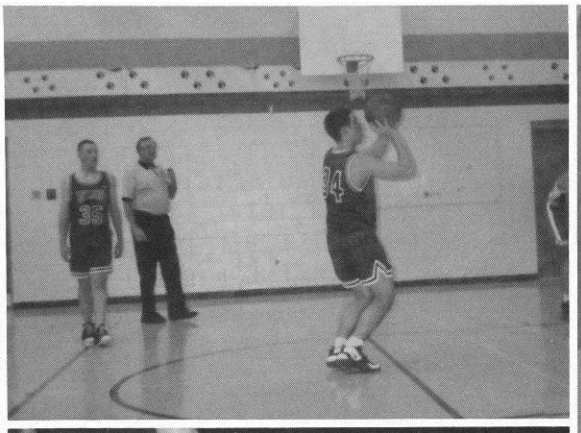


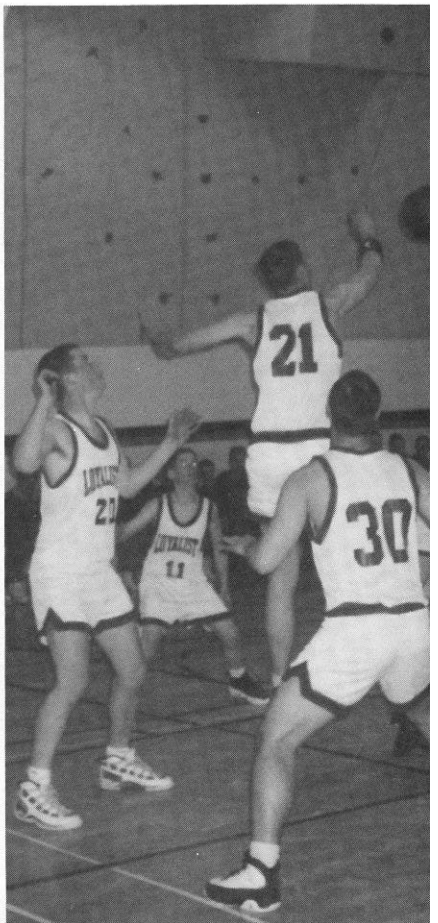


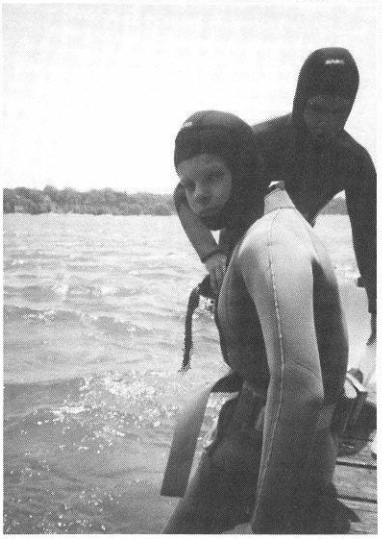
BASKETBALL

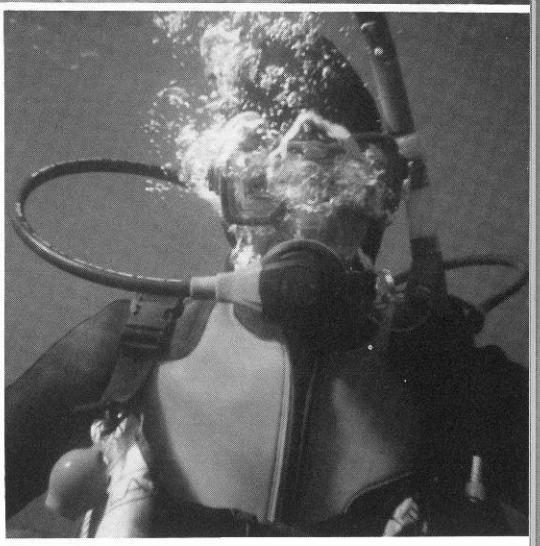
D. Jokinen, C. Feeney, M. Bukovac, Lt. Williams, C. Dobozy, R. Dietrich, J. Whittaker, R. Lista, A. Beaton, W. Ki, P. Tong, C. Mason, A. Jalloh, M. Purcell.











SCUBA - RESCUE/ADVANCED/OPEN WATER

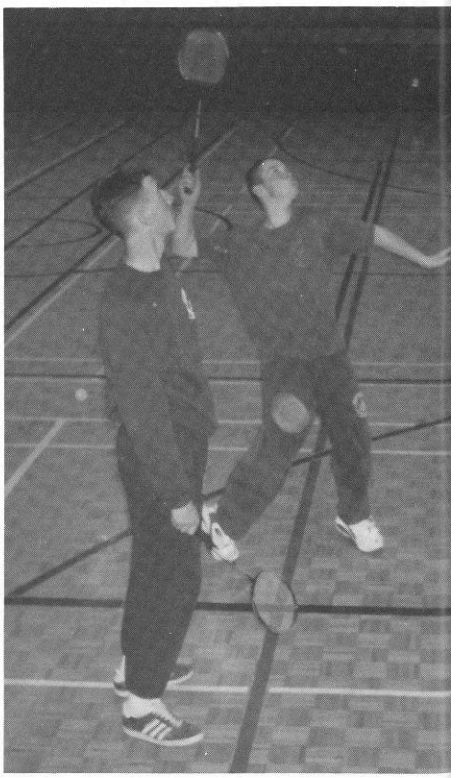
K. Holz, K. Bilodeau, E. Fine, S. Lucas, C. Mason, M. Kelly, Lt. Downey, R. Smith, C. Feeney, J. Holgate, J. Marsh, J. Norton, K. Coules, M. Baum, A. Beaton, J. Bartlett, D. Kim, M. Scott, M. Vujcuf, M. Atkin, Capt. Papaioannou, Capt. Gibson.

SOCCER

C. Ha, A. Gandhi, M. Bukovac, A. Jalloh, M. Purcell, D. Gildiner, D. Pellerin, D. Peters, A. Beaton, P. Wankum, A. Jelley, J. Read, A. Staffen, C. Dobozy, E. Manricks, Lt. Fricano, Lt. Seckler.

BADMINTON

A. Jelley, D. Peters, A. Beaton, B. McBride, R. Forbes, S. Mark, W. Ki, E. Manricks, Lt. Donofrio.



SKIING/SNOWBOARDING

Lt. Downey, K. Holz, C. Jenne, S. Henderson, R. Traversy, A. Essiambre, A. Freyseng, R. Hughes, J. Harkness, T. Sheridan, A. Beaton, J. Norton, K. Brenninkmeyer, J. Allatt, R. Lista, M. Vujcuf, D. Kim, Lt. Seckler.

Feux de joie/Rifle Drill Team

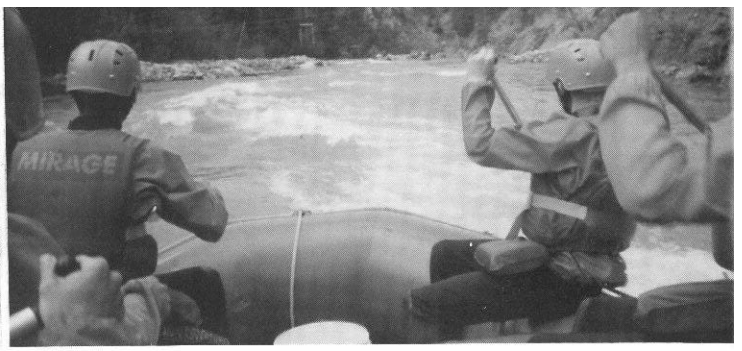
C. Lanteigne, D. Kilimnik, A. Jalloh, R. Khan, D. Peters, M. Dunkley, M. Harland, R. Traversy, M. Atkin, J. Read, M. Dalinda, J. Allatt, M. Kelly, K. Demedeiros, R. Hughes, J. Entwistle, M. Harbord, B. Denoble, B. Marra.

R. Traversy, A. Popovic, H. Hemming, K. Tam, B. Boyle, S. Lucas, E. Fine, M. Baum, R. Hughes, C. Chinn, CSM Bates, R. Dietrich, D. Drinkwater, H. Gamblin, K. Brenninkmeyer, G. Battaglin, A. Essiambre, J. Knowles, T. Harrow, J. Allatt, J. Watman, C. Dobozy.

Para/Rifle Team

L. Day, C. Feeney, J. Whittaker, R. Smith, M. Harland, CSM Coulen, D. Kim, R. Dietrich, P. Zahra, R. Mitchell, B. Levy.

WO Boland, R. Khan, M. Vujcuf, B. Marra, J. Barker, H. Gamblin, A. Essiambre, J. Allatt, S. Henderson, Capt. Gibson.



BOUNDERS

The Ultimate Experience

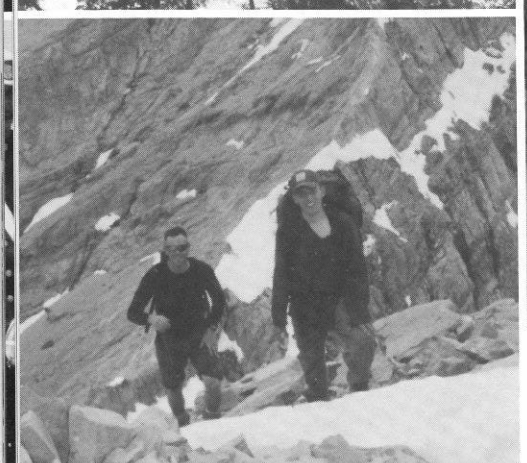
The 1996/97 Bounders had a great start to their busy year, accomplishing more than what some would have to take a lifetime to do. The Bounder's program is full of fun and excitement, but also is a great learning experience. With hands-on instruction in Geography, Environmental Science and Personal Life Management by Lt. White, the programme has been a great learning tool.

The year started off with a 5-day canoe trip to Algonquin Park. The weather was perfect and the Fall colours were at their peak. Everyone had a great time! With a little help from Staff Sergeant Lee we were able to accomplish many goals including lighting Apex stoves to Portaging a canoe for 2 kilometers.

On November 8, 1996 the Bounders were faced with a surprise task. Our objective was to prepare our gear, hike from Robert Land Academy to Rock Point, retrieve a fossil and return to the Academy in the least amount of time possible. We left the Academy at 1800 hrs. and with blistering feet and aching backs we returned at 1730 the next night. We had hiked 52 km in less than 24 hours. It was a huge accomplishment and when it was all said and done, everyone was filled with a great sense of pride.

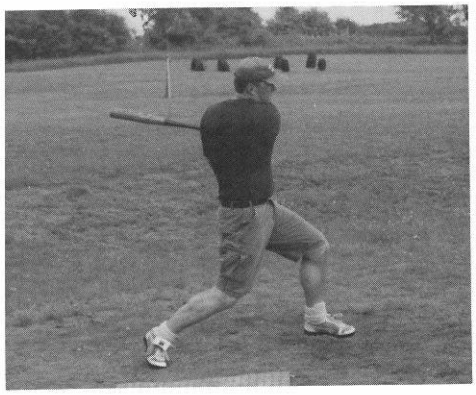
The Bounder's trip to the Bruce Peninsula, along Georgian Bay, was a six day trip ending in Tobermory. There was a foot of snow on the ground when we arrived. This made footing difficult, but added to nature's beauty. We walked along the cliffs following the Georgian Bay coastline and admired the coves and great rock masses which arose from the Bay's surface. Even with the cold November weather and the rain on the last day (after a Burger King Whopper meal) we were able to say the trip was a great success.

- Kees Brenninkmeyer

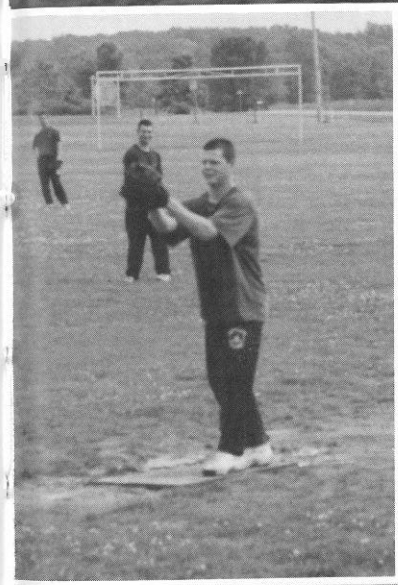


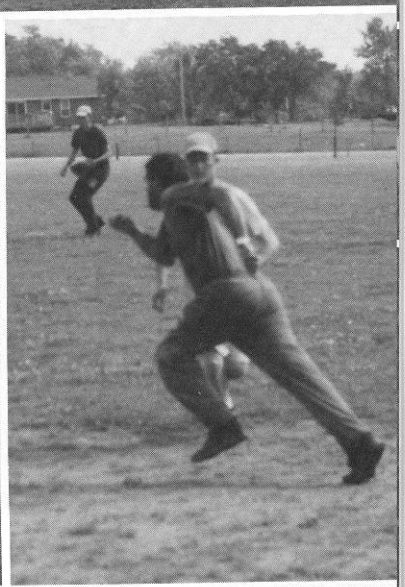
K. Brenninkmeyer, J. Inglis, S. Colville, K. Bilodeau, J. Ross, G. Hart, T. Bergen, Lt. White.

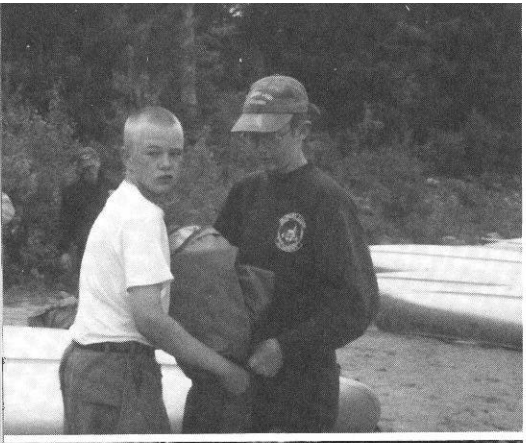
BASEBALL

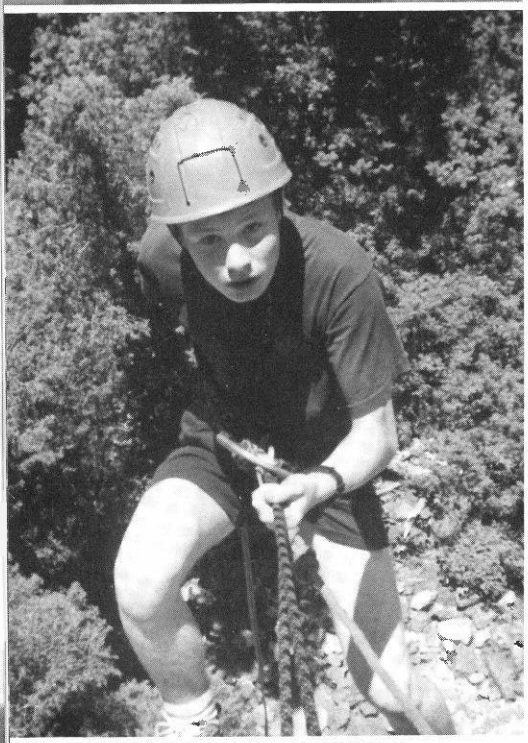


STAFF VS. STUDENTS

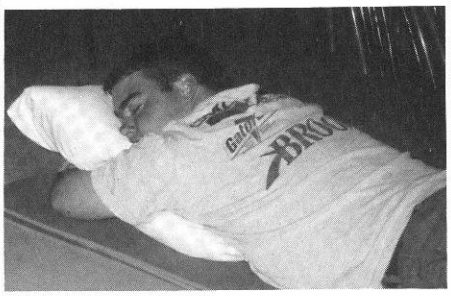


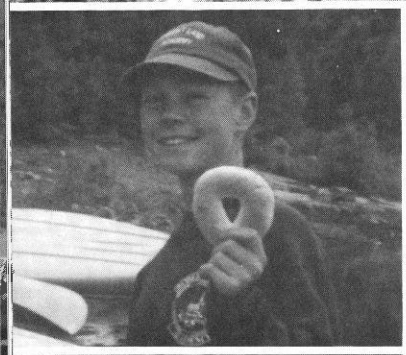






SPRING

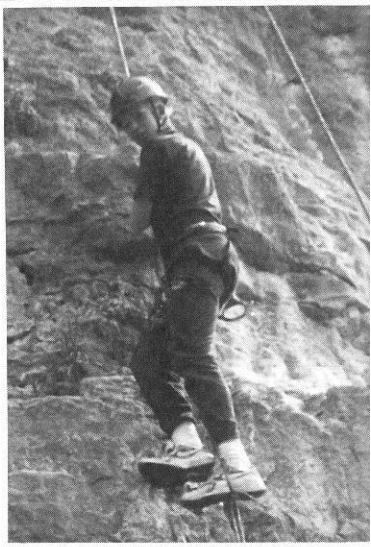


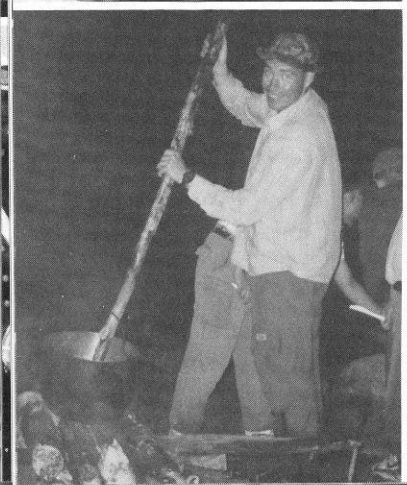


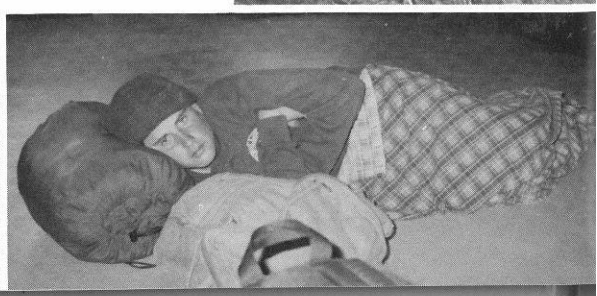
SPRING EXERCISE COVERS THE PROVINCE

At the end of final exams in June, the cadets of Robert Land Academy mobilized for an exercise that covered the far reaches of Ontario. Over the course of five days, eight different groups took part in various activities including canoeing, portaging and back packing in Kilarney Provincial Park and Algonquin Park, scuba diving in the Niagara Peninsula, canoeing and mountain biking in the Haliburton Forest & Wild Life Reserve, rock climbing at Rattlesnake Point in Milton, and sky diving in Simcoe.

This exercise is the culmination of a year where the cadets of Robert Land Academy are challenged to be the best that they can be academically, physically and mentally.

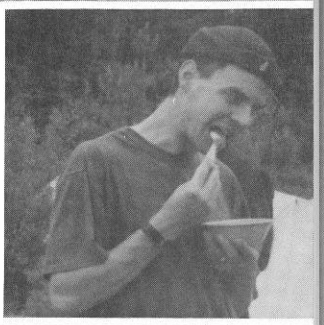


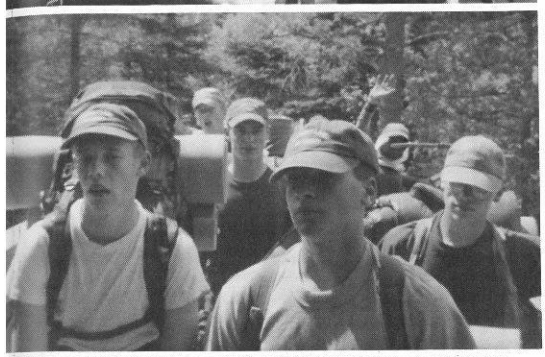


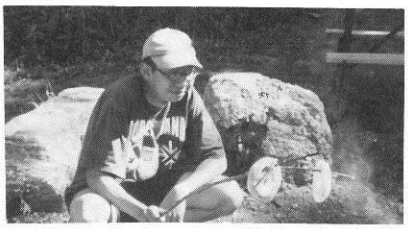


This year's Spring Exercise meant different things to different people. For some it was a fun outdoor experience. For others it was a grueling time in the woods, with more effort being put in to fighting off the mosquitoes than anything else. Other than the bears and raccoons getting into our food supply, I will remember the "ghost" sighting the most. Personally, I found backpacking during the Spring Exercise to be a very good ending to a long school year.

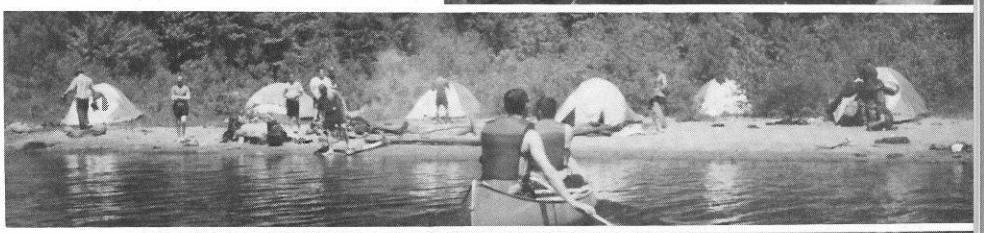
-- Kevin Coules





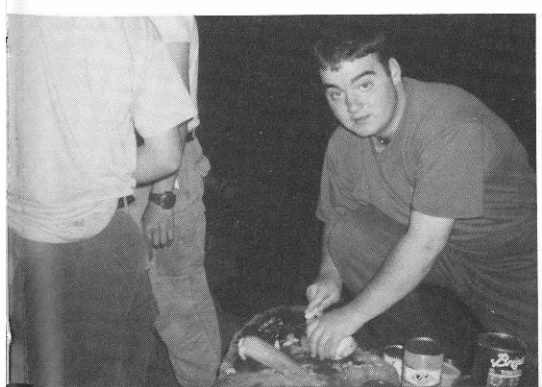


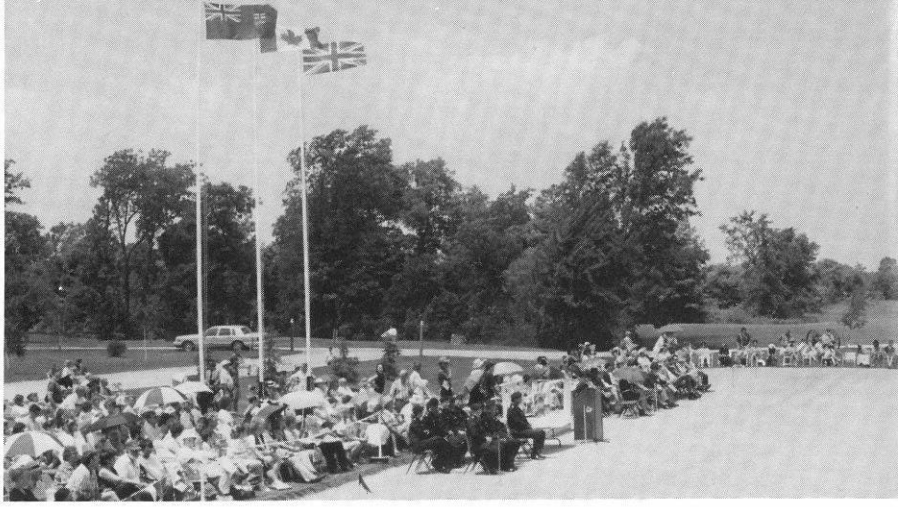
EXERCISE



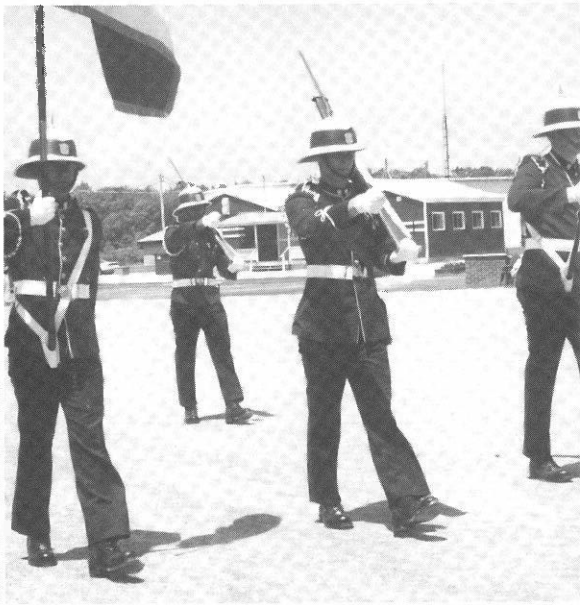
It has been said that the hardest trip is always the best trip. This was certainly the case for the advanced canoe excursion to Algonquin Park during the Spring Exercise. The grueling 1.6 km portages and the mass of mosquitoes, who loved us more than we loved them, were not enough to break our spirits. One-liners, impressions, songs, and the occasional "dance" from Karl Holz kept our morale high. Second skin soothed our blistered feet, and an ample supply of Mr. Ness' beef jerky kept our bodies strong. We definitely talked the talk and walked the walk, and frowns were always upside down!

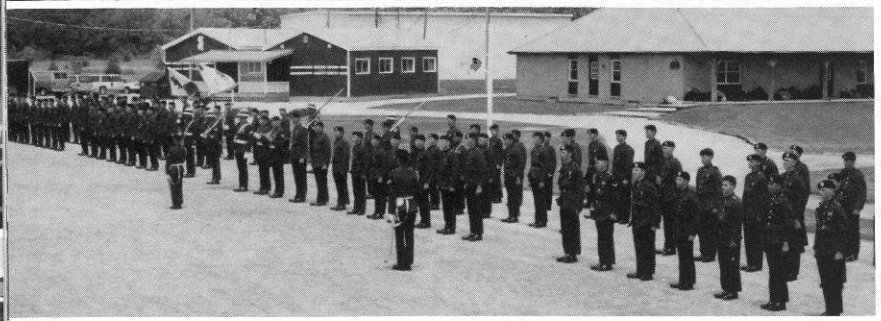
-- Fraser Pirie





GRADUATION





OAC Graduates

Ashraf Boutros*
Roger Chinn
Ryan Dietrich
Adam Freyseng
Shane Henderson
Carlos Lux-Dahl
Brian McBride
Geoffrey Norton*
Matthew Perusco*
Fraser Pirie
Daryl Swick
Paul Wankum*
David Withers

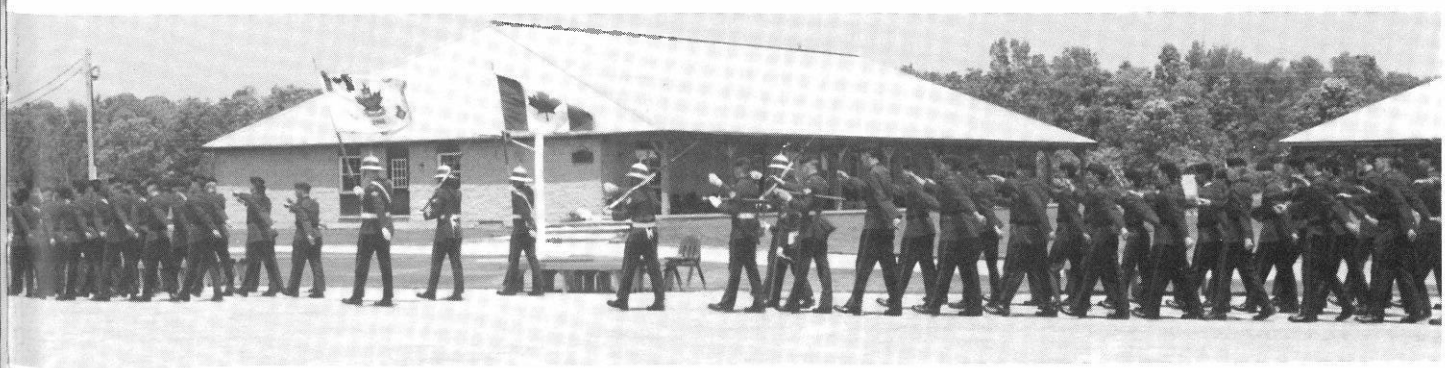
*Ontario Scholar

OSSD Graduates

Andrew Beaton
Edwin Cheung
Christopher Chinn
Robert Chong
Ryan Khan
Daniel Kim
Brandon Levy
Erick Manricks
Ryan Mitchell
Lincoln Tomlinson
Ryan Traversy
Jeremy Whittaker

Honour Roll

Julian Allatt
John Bartlett
Giordan Battaglin
Taylor Bergen
Ashraf Boutros
Kees Brenninkmeyer
Mathew Bukovac
Christopher Chinn
Adam Colucci
Kevin Coules
Matthew Dalinda
Lex Day
David Drinkwater
Ryan Forbes
Adam Freyseng
Harlan Gamblin
Aman Gandhi
David Gildiner
Michael Harbord
Shane Henderson
Karl Holz
Richard Hong
Lan-Wai Hwang
Amadu Jalloh
Adam Jelley
Christopher Jenne
Derek Jokinen
Matthew Kelly
Willie Ki
Derek Kilimnik
Daniel Kim
Cory Lanteigne
Charles Lee
Eric MacStravick
Colin Mason
Marc Milligan
Geoffrey Norton
Matthew Perusco
Fraser Pirie
Michael Rattenbury
Neal Sahi
Eric Simson
Matthew Toppi
Dennis Verma
Mihajlo Vujcuf
Paul Wankum
Joshua Watman



Special Awards

Headmaster's Medal & Trophy - Jeremy Ross
Robert Land Trophy - Ryan Smith
Christopher Dobozy
Governor General's Award - Geoffrey Norton
W.L. Hawkins Award - Christopher Chinn
John Hay to Life Award - Michael Purcell
Athlete of the Year - Christopher Dobozy
Adam Jelley

Larry Davidson Memorial Bursary - Adam Jelley
Paul Hunter Gold Citizenship Award - Ryan Traversy
RCAC Service Award - Jeremy Ross
Valedictorian - Daryl Swick
Canadian Forester's Award - Geoffrey Norton
Principal's Award of Excellence - Aman Gandhi
Parade Sergeant Major - Ryan Smith
Head Boy - Shane Henderson

Valedictorian's Address

In looking at some of the changes and experiences we've gone through, I consider this year to be a year of growth. It all began with the Fall Exercise, a grueling 3 day walk to the Brock Monument at Queenston Heights, where we had to pull a huge cannon up the escarpment. It was fired in memory of those who died in the War of 1812 and the ceremony that followed was truly moving, especially for our newly promoted cadets. This was the first year that we have had our badging parade in such an inspirational location.

Then came the May Inspection, when the Academy pulled together under the fire of ASM McAndrews, DSM Sinclair, and Capt. Gibson where we orchestrated an inspiring show, both with our precision drill team and our academic and other displays.

This year's rifle drill team was our best ever, led by Ryan Dietrich. Our team put on two exceptional performances, at the Scarlet Parade, and the May Inspection.

At the end of the year, the Spring Exercise offered a great opportunity to be at one with black flies, mosquitoes, and the rest of nature. We chose between canoeing, mountain biking, or hiking with Capt. Bird. I heard his hike was the easiest ever. The skydivers went jumping out of a plane, hovering over the ground at 3200 feet, and the scuba divers searched the bottom of the Niagara River.

I remember my first year when I came to the Academy. I was a new seed planted in a forest, fighting for survival. But that's not entirely true. I was not really a new seed. I was more of a plant that had started to grow elsewhere, but was unable to truly blossom. I hadn't reached my potential, so I came to RLA. The school has watered me and given me the proper nutrients to survive in the jungle, of the working world. More importantly, though, this school has taught us love. We have learned how to help each other, how to live with people we initally disliked, and how to lend people a helping hand when they are down in the dumps. All of these skills have been most obvious to me in 6th Form. The young men in 6th Form have helped me to change my attitude around, so that I can truly compete in the real world. My roommate Lex has kept me neat and organized, as well as being a good friend in my times of need. I thank all of them for keeping me down to earth, and not allowing me to fall back into my old ways. As well as all the boys, I've got to thank our parents and our teachers.

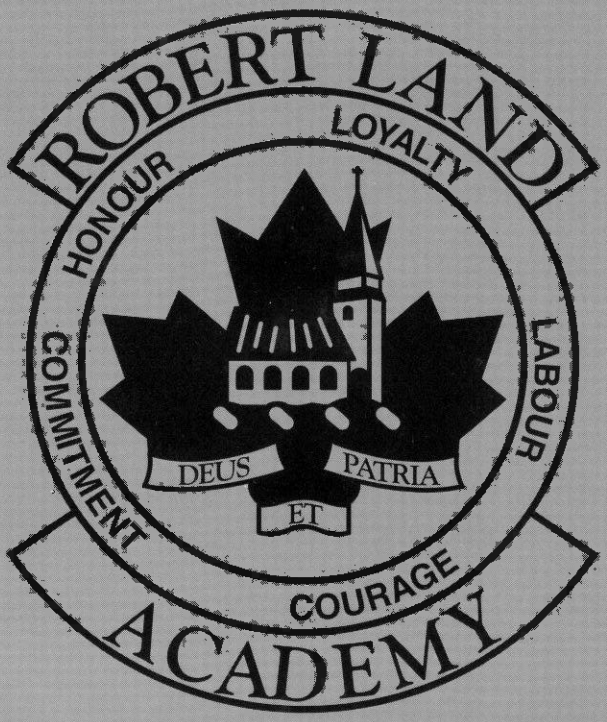
Most of us here have at one point or another strongly resented our parents for sending us to the Academy. However, fellow students, you must think and look deep down inside, and ask yourself, where would you be right now at this moment, if you did not attend the Academy this year and gotten yourself a good education? It's more than just a school for boys, it is a reality check that most of us have ignored, but was realized by the people who would stand beside us no matter the conditions. I'm talking about our parents. My good friend Manricks once told me: ''Friends may come and go but your family especially your parents, are forever.'' Parents, I think that we as a whole are not only grateful for your decisions, but don't know how to thank you enough. On behalf of all the students I would like to thank all of you parents out there from the bottom of our hearts for being there in our time of need.

Now, to our mentors. All of the teachers at the Academy were very easy to talk to about any subject at any time, and the Senior division teachers have given the graduates goals to focus and strive for. For me personally, Capt. Bird has kept me motivated. Sometimes he would get on my nerves but there was always a good reason for that. Lt. Downey kept my spirits up even at times when I thought smiles would be hard to come by. Capt. Vermont always took time out of his busy schedule to listen and help in Calculus. And I know I'm not the only one who needed help. For other students, Dr. Harley was a tough but fair teacher, who taught us that the world we live in is chaotic. Lt. Donofrio helped us see that women and men (even Perusco) are truly equal. Lt. Fricano taught us the mathematics of life and not just pasta recipes. Capt. Papaioannou taught us that physics and chemistry are the keys to the world. All of the staff have prepared myself and other students for further education, whether it be university, college or a few more years of high school. We are now ready to succeed.

Our growth this year wasn't just in the classroom, but on the sports field as well. Overall the year has been very successful in the wide world of RLA sports. The basketball team went from a 1-15 record last year, to SOSSA this year where we lost by only 3 pts. With the excellent coaching of Mr. Williams, and the mad skills of players like Dobozy and Bukovac, we were much improved. The ski team also did extremely well this year. They won SOSSA for the third year in a row, led to victory by Hughes, Freyseng, Beaton, Traversy, and Henderson. You can't forget those fun loving boarders Mr. Downey and Mr. Seckler the coaches. Our ski team even went on to compete at OFFSA, where they placed third in all of Ontario. Our soccer team put a lot of heart and determination into every game, especially Manricks, Purcell, and Boutros. Forbes was our king of the badminton courts this year. He made it to SOSSA and finished 5th, and came second in another tournament. Brenninkmeyer and Jelley ran themselves into the ground this year, winning numerous awards for top 5 finishes. There were also some excellent wrestling performances by Staffen and Watman, leading our team over their long season.

Thanks again everyone. Fellow students for the good times, teachers for their patience and hard work, Major Bowman for allowing us the opportunity to grow, and our parents for caring enough to give us another chance. Class of '97 - It's a jungle out there so keep growing.

Daryl Swick


ROBERT LAND
ACADEMY
HONOUR
LOYALTY
LABOUR
COURAGE
COMMITMENT
DEUS
ET
PATRIA